

Hafa Adai!

FBI special agent who arrested
Ada couple testifies.

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LibDay still needs more ven-
dors, parade participants.

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THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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GREEN THUMBS

JAYSON CAMACHO

Medilda N. David, Kitanah K. Helgen, Shawny Dayna Tkel, and Luke James C. Magofna of Marianas High School's after-school Agricultural Program proudly show off their certificates while posing with school officials led by MHS principal Cherlyn Cabrera and the program's instructor Isidoro Cabrera during a simple completion ceremony yesterday at the MHC campus.

See story on Page 6

Tax rebates out in a few weeks' time

BY JOEL PINAROC
joel_pinaroc@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The release of tax rebates for the CNMI is on schedule and will commence in a few weeks.

Department of Finance Secretary Larissa Larson told lawmakers on Capital Hill that the rebates "will be out in the near future" and "within the next month."

The Finance chief also asked for patience and that the checks will be "out soon." She did not say the exact date but said this will be one of the "fastest" releases that the department will be conducting.



Larson

Lawmakers welcomed the news, saying the tax rebates can give a "spark" to the CNMI's economy.

Rep. Antonio P. Sablan (Ind-Saipan) noted that the community "will welcome the incoming funds."

Larson was on Capital Hill on Tuesday during a budget hearing for her department.

Back in April, Larson said her department is working to release tax rebates in the Commonwealth well before the start of the school year in September.

She said the department is working to process the early release of the rebates, but if employees have an immediate need for funds, they can apply for a bank loan "against the rebate."

One of those banks is the Bank of Saipan.

See TAX on Page 4

Prevailing wage survey report expected to be released today

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
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REPORTER

The Department of Commerce is expected to release today the findings of the prevailing wage survey that they have been conducting since early this year.

Commerce Secretary Mark Rabauliman, together with the depart-

ment's Central Statistics Division director Alfonsis Sound, presented the report to Gov. Eloy S. Inos at his office yesterday.

According to Rabauliman, the meeting with the governor "went very well."

"With the support of the administration and funding source from the Office of Insular Affairs we want to give

them thanks and we really appreciate the governor for his time," Rabauliman said.

"We presented it in a fashion where we hit some of the points that he was curious about," he added.

"The governor is pleased that finally we are able to get this out," Press Secretary Ivan Blanco said.

See WAGE on Page 4

TDHC employees cry foul over delayed salary

By JAYSON CAMACHO
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REPORTER

Employees of Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino have yet to receive their salary from last payday, June 12, according to several staff who contact-

ed *Saipan Tribune*.

Tinian Dynasty is the CNMI's only casino. *Saipan Tribune* emailed the casino hotel's general manager Christopher Bishop, but he has yet to respond to queries as of press time.

Employees, who want to remain

anonymous, said they feel bad that their employer has failed to pay what is owed to them, adding that they desperately need their salary to pay their bills and buy food for their family.

"I went to the bank to check if my

See TDHC on Page 4

INSIDE



LOCAL

The Let's Move Marianas and Week of the Young Child 2015 expo was a complete success.

» PAGE 8



NATION

A woman charged with helping two murderers escape from a maximum-security prison made another court appearance.

» PAGE 16



HOUSEKEEPING

Somewhere in the southern reaches of Miami-Dade County, the only fern of its kind known to grow wild in the continental U.S. survives under a thicket of Brazilian pepper.

» PAGE 19



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Local

FBI special agent who arrested Ada couple testifies

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Federal Bureau of Investigation special agent responsible for arresting couple Melvin and Leyda Ada in 2012 for alleged healthcare fraud exceeding \$1.7 million testified in federal court yesterday.

Special agent Edmund Harrison Ewing said Melvin Ada “al-

most had a look of resignation,” when he was arrested with his wife, Leyda, in the backroom of their Island Trendz business in Garapan. Leyda, on other hand, was more “aggressive,” asking a lot of questions about what was happening and what the charges were.

Ewing also said the Leyda Ada appeared upset and later, without being asked, told him

that the business was not in her name but in the name of Melvin Ada’s father, and their residence was also not in their name but in the name of Melvin’s father.

Leyda Ada is accused of conspiring with her husband, Melvin, to perpetrate healthcare fraud exceeding \$1.7 million. Melvin Ada, a former employee of the Commonwealth Health Center, has since pleaded guilty to 56 charges for misappropriating and diverting CNMI Treasury checks made payable to a medical supplier company totaling over \$1.7 million. Leyda Ada, who is facing charges of conspiracy to commit laundering, money laundering, and perjury, has pleaded not guilty to all charges.

Ewing, now working in the

FBI’s San Francisco division, was the original case agent for the Ada investigation. He lived in the CNMI from approximately 2010 to 2013.

Ewing testified yesterday that in August 2011, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. officials Esther Muna and Joseph Villagomez informed him of possible theft at CHC.

The officials had observed abnormality with the billing for Midwest Medical Supply, or MMS, who CHC contracts with. He said they at first indicated losses of about \$300,000.

He then issued subpoenas for documents at CHC, the Department of Finance, and MMS and compared these documents. The agent said he also talked to MMS representatives.

He recalled that Finance had several copies for checks intended for MMS. The MMS representative, Bill Munson, gave him a complete list of banks where the checks were to be cashed, he said.

He compared that list to Finance documents to find that the checks from Finance were not actually deposited into the bank accounts provided by MMS.

He said the “burning question” then was: how could Melvin Ada cash checks that weren’t made out to him?

He was informed by MMS that Melvin’s wife, Leyda, was briefly employed by MMS and as result got an employment contract with MMS.

He said that contract was the basis for opening accounts with

MSS and enabled Melvin Ada to deposit those checks. He said the grand jury subpoenaed bank records that included signatures, which led him to realize the amount of checks to Melvin’s account was \$1.4 million. Finance later determined that this loss amount was \$1.79 million.

Ewing said he believes that the timeframe of the “risk of loss” was between the time Melvin Ada was employed under his father-in-law Joe Ichihara in CHC’s Material and Supply Office before transferring to the accounting section due to a conflict of interest.

He said that was his estimate when the transfer occurred.

He said in 2011 he worked closely with financial analysts in Honolulu, conducted interviews with CHC, Finance, and MMS to understand thoroughly of the couple’s role in theft, loss amount, and where the money went.

In September 2012, this culminated in charges being presented to the couple. On Sept. 25, 2012 an arrest warrant was issued and Ewing went to Island Trendz Business store to arrest the couple.

He said he met an employee standing behind a counter, and asked him if Melvin Ada was there. The employee, who was not identified, did not answer, he said, but looked in the direction of the store’s backroom.

Walking into this room, Ewing saw a male, which he identified as Melvin Ada, and then proceeded to arrest him. A female entered the area, who was identified as Leyda Ada, and asked what was going on. She was also placed under arrest, Ewing said.

Ewing said Melvin Ada was submissive and immediately cooperative. He said he “almost had a look of resignation.”

Ewing described Leyda Ada as “aggressive,” asking a lot of questions, asking to know her charges, and what was happening.

The couple was then transported to the Marshall’s office in federal court, he said, and kept separate.

The prosecution asked Ewing if Leyda Ada made any statement to him. He said yes, and was then asked if these were in response to any questioning. Ewing said it wasn’t.

Ewing said her first statement was that she was upset, and that she never has been in trouble with law before, and this was new to her.

Ewing said Ada told him that the business was not in her name but in the name of her husband’s father.

When asked by the prosecution, Ewing said he interpreted this as her saying that the business couldn’t be associated

See FBI on Page 4

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Fax: (670) 235-7275
mholley@nmpasi.org

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of
the Estate of
DOLORES BLAS
DELA CRUZ

Deceased.

Civil Action
No. 15-0097-CV

Notice of Hearing
on Petition

Judge Wiseman
Room 223

PLEASE TAKE NOTE that a hearing on
the Petition in the above-captioned case
shall be heard on June 23, 2015, at 1:30 PM
in the Superior Court of the Commonwealth
of the Northern Mariana Islands.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 28th
day of May, 2015.

/s/ Clerk of Court

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEY FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

SAIPAN AUTO SUPPLY CO., : SMALL CLAIM
 : NO. 13-0372

Plaintiff, :

-v- :

GRACE UCHAU, :

Defendant. :

SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any
answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of
which is served upon you hereby, within twenty-one (21)
days after the fourth publication of this Summons, and to
deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the LAW OFFICES
OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC, the Plaintiff’s attorney, whose
address is Post Office Box 5222, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon
as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the
Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the
Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan. It may be prepared
and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of
this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you
to appear personally until further notice.

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Public land trust assets increase \$3.7M, says report

An independent audit report by Ernst & Young showed that the assets of the Marianas Public Land Trust increased in 2014 by \$3.71 million over the amount in 2013.

The audit report was published by the CNMI Office of the Public Auditor in its website.

According to the audit report, the asset increase was due to principal contributions of \$1,303,852 and due to a continuing trend of increasing fair value of investments.

The assets of MPLT increased in 2013 by \$859,120 over the amount at 2012. This increase in assets was due to a continuing trend of increasing fair value of investments.

The assets of MPLT increased in 2012 by \$5,942,187 over the amount at 2011.

This increase in assets was due primarily to the increase in fair value of investments re-

bounding from the 2011 that showed an overall loss of value.

Total liabilities for 2014 decreased by \$1,117,955 from 2013 due primarily to a decrease in the amount due to brokers, which is a function of security purchases that did not clear by year end.

Total liabilities for 2013 decreased by \$985,900 from 2012 due primarily to a decrease in the amount due to brokers, which is a function of security purchases that did not clear by year end. Total liabilities for 2012 increased by \$278,251 from 2011 due to an increase of due to brokers resulting from a change in money managers and the sale of investments.

This was offset somewhat due to the application of the amount due to the CNMI General Fund being applied as of yearend. Accounts payable and accrued expenses did not change mate-

rially from the amount in 2011.

The above changes resulted in an increase of \$4,828,930 in total net position for 2014, increase in total net position of \$1,845,020 for 2013, and an increase in total net position of \$5,663,936 for 2012.

Total revenues of MPLT are a combination of gains (losses) attributable to the valuation of investments plus income earned on such investments. Total operating revenues for 2014, 2013, and 2012 were \$5,382,094, \$5,087,100, and \$7,630,783, respectively.

The total performance of MPLT for 2014 was 6.9 percent, which did not exceed its target rate of return of 7.5 percent, for 2013 was 6.2 percent, and 2012 was 11.3 percent.

The overall administrative costs increased in 2014 by 10 percent or \$76,642, decreased in 2013 by 1 percent or \$10,099,

and decreased in 2012 by 11 percent or \$101,108 as there was a small impairment loss recognized.

The investment income for 2014, 2013, and 2012 was \$1,624,905, \$2,625,814, and \$2,942,976, respectively.

The distributions to the CNMI General Fund paid for 2014, 2013, and 2012 was \$844,111, \$1,908,543, and \$1,894,921, respectively. The cumulative amount distributed to the CNMI General Fund since inception in 1983 has been \$54,621,234.

This has occurred while growing the principal fund by \$38,386,441 for the same time-period. The General Fund's annual return for 2014 was 6.82 percent, 2013 was 5.91 percent, and 2012 was 11.03 percent. The loan made to the Northern Marianas Housing Corp. became un-performing when NMHC defaulted in

2007 when P. L. 10-29 and 12-27 was repealed per P.L. 15-48. MPLT negotiated a settlement agreement wherein \$2,025,000 was paid and the related loan portfolio was transferred to MPLT. MPLT is currently managing these loans and attempting to recover its \$8.9 million principal.

Due to collection uncertainty for this investment, a write-down of value amount-

ing to \$4,830,000 was recognized by MPLT as of September 30, 2014.

The OPA, meanwhile, clarified that the figures contained on a separate report on the NMI Retirement Fund's financial record is financial information taken directly from the actual audit report and should not be attributed to OPA. The *Saipan Tribune* published the report on Monday. (Joel Pinaroc)

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LibDay still needs more vendors, parade participants

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

With only nine days left, the 2015 Liberation Day committee is still looking for more parade participants as well as food and non-food vendors in what is expected to be one of the biggest community events this year.

Yesterday morning, Skywalker Communications Group and the Saipan Mayor's Office had a meeting to discuss posters and banner designs as well as updates on vendors and the float competition.

However, Mayor David M. Apatang expressed concern

over the dwindling days before the kickoff for the 2015 Liberation Day festivities.

"We need to focus on the parade now and the activities. We already know that the booth rentals are costly but installments can be made where they can pay half and half. Also we encourage the community to join in the float competition," Apatang said.

The parade is set for July 4 with participants expected to be on site by 7am, while the parade kicks off at Quartermaster around 9am. It will go toward the carnival grounds at the Garapan Fishing Base.

Skywalker Communications manager Hu Bo said that it has been already three months since preparations started and he hopes that this year, with Skywalker managing the festivities, the 2015 Liberation Day will provide the community the "best experience."

Liberation Day committee member Rose Ada-Hocog did confirm that although "overall" expenditures have yet to be determined, Skywalker has managed to incur almost \$200,000 for operational expenses alone.

"We are doing our best and Mr. Bo is using money out of his pocket to try and make this the best experience. He is trying to make the best efforts where in the end he might lose money,"

Hocog said.

Bo said that he wishes more support from the community and businesses but at the same time thanked everyone who have so far supported the 2015 Liberation Day.

He also confirmed that there are rides coming to Saipan from Hong Kong, China.

"There are more than 10 but less than 20 rides. No timetable yet on its arrival," he said.

"We also want to encourage everyone to come out and participate in this event. I understand that this is a very important event, so community involvement is important," Apatang said.

Only 48 booths are available for vendors and the signup is on a first-come, first-served basis, so the 2015 Liberation Com-

mittee is urging all interested vendors to sign up as soon as possible.

The prices for booth rentals are \$2,000 for food and beverage (non-alcoholic); \$1,500 for carnival booth games; \$1,500 for retail and souvenirs; \$1,200 for arts and crafts; and \$150 for July 4 roving street vendors. There is a \$200 deposit for the booth.

Deadline for applications is June 20. Installments are welcome.

The booths open on June 27 and close on Aug. 16, 2015, giving vendors ample time to sell their products or services.

The prizes for the float competition are \$4,000 for first place; \$3,000 for second; \$2,000 for third; and \$1,000 for

fourth—the largest it has been in recent years.

Volunteers are also welcome to apply including students from high school looking to include volunteer hours to their school requirements.

The theme for this year is "Peace in Diversity."

The 2015 Liberation Day Carnival grounds will open on June 27 and will run 6pm-10pm Mondays to Thursdays, 6pm-11pm on Fridays, 10am to 11pm on Saturdays and 10am to 10pm on Sundays.

For more information, call the Saipan Mayor's Office at 234-6208 or the Skywalker Communications office at 234-7942 or email ldcnmi@gmail.com.

BSI suggest MOA with govt for repair of 'Garapan Ditch'

Best Sunshine International, Ltd. suggests that their repair of the "Garapan Ditch," or canal, be done through a memorandum of agreement with the CNMI government rather than as a major siting permit condition for their 14-story casino resort in Garapan, according to their project file under the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality.

This ditch or canal has been dangerous and foul smelling, and would run adjacent to Best Sunshine's casino resort.

One permit condition of their major siting application requires that BSI ensure that the "Garapan Ditch" is improved to manage additional stormwater flow and reduce potential impacts to the marine environment.

This condition was also a part of the major siting application for the archaeological recovery dig done on the site. It remains outstanding.

Per the permit condition, a final design for approval would be submitted to Division of Coastal Resources Management within 120 days and de-

sign would be completed within two years of the end of their archaeological dig.

In recent correspondence with the Division of Coastal Resources Management, BSI says that this permit condition requires them to make improvement to an existing drainage ditch that runs along and outside the northern property boundary. And unfortunately, BSI writes, they do not have control over this property and therefore, have no authority to make improvements.

However, BSI writes that they appreciate the opportunity to further discuss this permit condition and bring in other relevant agencies to be involved in these projects.

"Perhaps this condition could be approached as an MOA with the CNMI government rather than a DCRM permit condition," BSI writes.

This off-site improvements, among others, are included as part of the current major siting application sitting with regulatory officials. A public hearing for BSI's 14-story hotel resort is set on June 25. **(Dennis B. Chan)**

Inos signs two new laws

Gov. Eloy S. Inos recently signed two new laws for the CNMI.

House Local Bill 19-22, entitled "To appropriate \$44,000 from local license fees collected for poker and pachinko slot machines in the First Senatorial District; and for other purposes," has now become Rota Local Law 19-02.

The bill was passed unanimously by the Rota Legislative Delegation of the 19th Northern Mariana Islands Commonwealth Legislature on first and final reading last June 9.

The bill was authored by Rep. Glenn Maratita (R-Rota).

Out of the amount, \$30,650 is allocated to the Department of Finance for the purpose of providing the monthly subsistence allowance for residents of the First Senatorial District who are undergoing dialysis treatment and treatment for terminal illnesses covering final payment for October 2014, full payment for November 2014, and, partial payment for December 2014.

Under Rota Local Law 19-

02, the expenditure authority will be the Finance secretary.

The remaining amount of \$13,350 will be allocated for the Rota Municipal Scholarship and the expenditure authority will be the chairperson of the Rota Municipal Scholarship Foundation Board.

Another law that has been signed is Senate Bill 19-08, which now becomes Public Law 19-1.

The bill was authored by Sens. Justo S. Quitugua (Ind-Saipan), Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan), and Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan).

According to the bill, the duration of the inauguration session in which the House of Representatives and Senate conduct its first session for organizational purposes has steadily increased over the past several years.

The previous law mandates that the session be at 11am for both. The purpose of the bill is to make the organization session be conducted at 10am by the House and 11 am by the Senate. **(Joel Pinaroc)**

WAGE

From Page 1

Rabauliman added that they had discussions with the governor with regards to the technical side and making the survey better in terms of capturing data.

"He had a lot of good ideas but it's more of working towards making [the survey] more efficient," Rabauliman told *Saipan Tribune*.

Sound added that he will also be meeting with the Department of Labor as they are partners in conducting the survey.

Minor revisions

Commerce officials declined to disclose yet the findings of the survey as they wanted to finalize the whole report. Some minor revisions are needed but the data gathered in the survey are all complete.

Showing initial pages of the report to *Saipan Tribune*, the report is comprised of four sections including data on occupation, educational attainment, and hourly wages in the CNMI.

"Without divulging too much, I can almost safely say that it's almost comparable to 2011. No real deviation from there," Rabauliman said.

Sound noted that the instrument that was used in 2011 was also used in the latest survey.

However, Blanco noted that unlike the 2011 survey, which

included all the businesses in the CNMI, the 2014 survey only included all the businesses on Tinian and Rota and a random selection of companies for Saipan.

He also said that comparisons from the 2011 and 2014 data were not included in the latest report.

"What we expect is that all the occupations that will be reflected in this report were [those] that were reflected in the 2011 report," Blanco said.

Important for the business community

"What's most important is the businesses will be able get updated information and then use that when they hire new workers," he added.

The prevailing wage survey is important to CNMI businesses when hiring workers under the H1 visa category.

"They need the prevailing wage survey to hire H1 visa," Sound said.

Blanco said that the survey is awaited for by many in the industry.

"I know that businesses, the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, has been calling for this," Blanco said, "I think all the businesses will be happy to have it," he added.

The wage survey was started on January. The initial part of the survey, which was data gathering, was completed sometime in April and was then followed by data analysis.

quested to see her private counsel before he could even question her in the Marshall's conference room.

The FBI also searched the Ada couple's house and business the day they were arrested.

On Monday this week, testimony from an FBI agent revealed that among other items and documents, they seized "expensive" handbags and \$4,000 cash "hidden" in a basket filled with lingerie.

The FBI agent, Haejun Park, said on Monday that the handbags found were a Celine bag, Louis Vuitton wallet, Louis Vuitton cross-body bag; Celine leather bag, Givenchy black cloth wallet, Prada black cloth handbag, Louis Vuitton handbag, and Louis Vuitton brown/gold handbag.

TDHC

From Page 1

money was in, but it's not. Nothing is in there. I haven't got paid since last Friday and up until now," said one Tinian Dynasty employee who called *Saipan Tribune*.

Another employee, who also wants to remain anonymous, said that he did not get paid as well.

"This is a repeat again. I thought it all had ended two

years ago. But what is happening now? I like what I am doing and I don't want this to happen. I need to get paid," said the employee.

Another employee who contacted the *Saipan Tribune* yesterday said he heard payroll will resume this coming Friday, June 19.

"That is not fair, because payday is next week as well. Who is to say they won't pay us again next week. I don't know if it is because of the money

that they are being fined for, I don't know if they are going bankrupt, but I haven't received payment," he said.

Tinian Dynasty's purported payroll woes comes weeks after the U.S. Department of the Treasury Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) fined Hong Kong Entertainment Overseas Investments, Ltd. a whopping \$75 million for "willful and egregious violations" of the Bank Secrecy Act earlier this month.

FinCEN added that Tinian Dynasty's owner also failed to develop and implement an anti-money laundering program to ensure ongoing compliance with the Bank Secrecy Act.

This is not the first time that employees of Tinian Dynasty cried foul over not getting their salary. In June 2013, staff called local newspapers to complain about the non-payment of their salaries, which at that time stretched as far back as nine payrolls.

TAX

From Page 1

Priorities

During the budget hearing at Capital Hill, the Finance department has requested a budget of about \$2.1 million, while the government's budget proposal is about \$1.2 million.

According to Larson, one of the priorities of her department is to hire a lawyer specializing

on tax. She said a candidate has been identified who is not just a tax lawyer, but also a certified public accountant.

She emphasized to lawmakers the need for the tax lawyer. "We need the legal support," Larson said.

The House Committee on Ways and Means has been conducting the budget hearings on government agencies in the past few weeks.

Rep. Joseph "Lee Pan" Guer-

rero, who attended the hearing, said he "is concerned" that the Division of Customs, which is under the Department of Finance, is not getting more funding.

"They (Customs agents) are at the front line. I am concerned that they are not getting more funding support," the lawmaker said.

He said he understands the importance of the Finance secretary's functions, but he suggested streamlining some of the budget to go to Customs.

Customs Director Joe Mafnas, who was also at the hearing, said the division badly needs agents, particularly during this time that the entry of illegal drugs into the CNMI is increasing at an alarming rate.

Mafnas, however, clarified that the Finance secretary is "very supportive" of the needs of the division. Mafnas is asking for 18 more personnel to add to the 46 staff currently manning the Customs Division.

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We can place our beloved home of the Marianas in the world map amongst the league of competitive tourism-gaming and entertainment destinations if we, the government, our community and the investors all work together to ensure we protect the public interest while encouraging this investment to flourish.

John Gonzales, Talk Show Host & Producer



"Being part of Singapore's Fact Finding group is an unforgettable and knowledge-filled experience about family-oriented or luxurious integrated resorts - something we need in Saipan."

Nikkael Agustines, NMC Student





Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

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WATER QUALITY REPORT NOW AVAILABLE

Your 2014 CUC Annual Water Quality Report is now available on-line!

Please go to <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/CCR-2014.pdf> to view what contaminants were detected in your water in 2014 and to learn more about your drinking water. This report contains important information about the source and quality of your drinking water.

If you need the report translated, wish to speak with someone about the report, or would like a paper copy delivered or emailed to you, please call CUC at (670) 664-4282.

AYOOR REPOD

Yóómw 2014 CUC Annual Water Quality Report nge a llo on-line!

Uló reel <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/CCR-2014.pdf> bwe ubwe weri meta mil ngaw kka re schungi llól yóómw schaal llól 2014 me ubwe bawl ghi mataf reel úlómómw schaal. Amataffal kkal nge eghi auscheya reel yááyál me ghatchúl yóómw schaal.

Faingi CUC reel (670) 664-4282 ngare u tipeli rebwe seleti ngalúgh amataff kkal, kkapas ngali eschay, me ngare u mwuschel eew kkopiya rebwe bwughi lló reemw me ngare afanga ngálugh.

GUMUAHA RIPOT PÁ'GU

I iyom-mu 2014 CUC Annual na Ripot Kuáldít Hânú esta pá'gu gumuaha gi on-line!

Put fabot hânáo para i <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/CCR-2014.pdf> para u ma'atan hâfa na contaminants manmasodda' gi halum hanom-mu gi 2014 yan para un tung'u mäs put i hanum magimin. Esti na ripot ha sasahguan siha manimpottânti na imfotmasion put i source yan kuáldít i hanum magimin.

Yanggin un nisisita i ripot matransláda, ya malagu' hão kumuentusi hâyí put i ripot pat malagu' hão kopian páppit u ma'entrega pat mana'hânáo guatu para hãgu, put fabot ágang i CUC gi (670) 664-4282.

10 students complete agricultural program

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Ten students from Marianas High School completed the school's Agricultural Program and were awarded certificates in campus yesterday afternoon.

However, only four students of the Agricultural Program were present during the presentation of certificates. Just the same, MHS principal Cherlyn Cabrera and the program's instructor



Cabrera

Isidoro Cabrera recognized the six students who were absent for their efforts in participating.

The students who completed MHS' Agricultural Program are Medilda N. David, Kitah K. Helgen, Shawny Dayna Tkel, Luke James C. Magofna, Shyanna Demapan Shai, Hope Litulumar, Jimmy R. Blanca, Katherine Tanaka McEntee, Doris Ngirchongor, and Joana Balodad Babauta.

Of the 10 students only David, Helgen, Tkel, and Magofna were present during the ceremony to receive their certificates.

Isidoro Cabrera said that at first the program started out with 21 students but decreased to 10.

"Maybe some had transportation problems or can't make it

»Afterschool program awarded 1 credit to each student

but I am proud that the students are receiving their certificates. They are each earning a credit for their second semester here at MHS," he said.

The class started in February of this year and ended yesterday.

The students planted tomato, cucumber, oca, eggplants, string beans, Chinese cabbage, kangkong [Ipomoea aquatica], corn, and radish.

After the certificates were presented, a ceremonial planting of dragon fruit at the gate that separates MHS and the Public School System's main office in Susupe was held.

"This is our third year and very excited because it is one of our afterschool programs that we have and partners with agricultural experts like Isidoro Cabrera to teach this class. So we're really excited," Cherlyn Cabrera said.

"We're not just excited about teaching students how to plant or garden, but teaching them planting and garden-

ing as an industry because we have a lot of unused land and unused resources here and the ability to grow things. I think if more people knew that we'd have more agricultural industry and if they knew that I think it would be beneficial," she added.

Cherlyn Cabrera said that the school provides the funding for the afterschool program. She noted that there are other afterschool programs that MHS students can enjoy such as web design, video productions, arts, performing arts and bands, and tutoring.

"Why we like these afterschool programs is because if students don't have time to fit in their schedule like the agricultural class they can take it afterschool and learn the valuable skills," she said.

Tkel, David, and Helgen told *Saipan Tribune* that they wanted to earn more credits by attending the afterschool program.

"I plan to also do some gardening because Mr. Cabrera [Isidoro] gave us seeds to plant with," David said.

Helgen said that she wanted to learn and experience more about agriculture and making produce.

Tkel, meanwhile, said she plans to use the knowledge she gained from the program to plant a small garden at home.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-15-017

WATERLINE REPAIRS, SAIPAN, CNMI

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced entities to provide construction repair services for identified waterline leaks in the CUC water system. This Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity contract will be awarded to multiple Contractors. The work will consist of excavation and leak repairs on various types of waterlines and appurtenances. Materials for leak repairs are to be provided by CUC. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC. The duration of the contract is one year (365 calendar days) from date of award with an option to extend for an additional year, contingent upon funding and if exercised by CUC.

This project is funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and CUC & the US Department of Interior -Bureau of Reclamation. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from the above mentioned funding agencies.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on June 23, 2015 at 10:00 AM (ChST) at the CUC Training Room, 3rd Floor, Room 17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan.

Prospective proponents for this RFP must register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division, by 3:00 p.m. (ChST) on June 26, 2015 in order to be considered.

One (1) Original Hard Copy must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC RFP-15-017, Waterline Repairs, Saipan, CNMI" to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on July 14, 2015.** A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to CUC Procurement & Supply Division via email address cucprocurement@cucgov.org or alternately include a CD with each copy of the submission.

The deadline for proposal submittals is July 14, 2015, although this date may be subject to change. Changes to the proposal schedule will be distributed to all registered proponents by the CUC Procurement and Supply office.

Proponents are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the proponents due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of proponents' preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract.

Proponents shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proponents.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: <https://marianaslabor.net/>. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be considered only from registered proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on June 30, 2015** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org, with a copy to Yvonne Cabrera, CUC Engineer, Water/Wastewater Division via email yvonne.cabrera@cucgov.org.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-15-018

SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF POWER DISTRIBUTION ANNUAL MATERIALS

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified entities for the Supply and Delivery of Power Distribution Annual Materials for Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

CUC may award a contract to more than one firm for the materials, based on bids for "Commodity Groups".

Prospective Bidders must register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$50.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

One (1) Original Hard Copy must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-15-018, Supply & Delivery of Power Distribution Annual Materials, Saipan, CNMI" to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on July 16, 2015**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to CUC Procurement & Supply Division via email address cucprocurement@cucgov.org or alternately include a CD with the copy of the submission.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bid. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidder. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. All responses to this Invitation for Bids should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the bidder, awarded a contract.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. The award of a contract(s) is contingent upon the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) and the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Board of Director's (BOD) approval. The contract(s) will not be executed by CUC until such approval is provided.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on June 29, 2015** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Alfredo Palattao, CUC Power Division Engineer via email alfredo.palattao@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Officials mum on Fitial case until after sentencing

The administration of Gov. Eloy S. Inos has yet to issue a statement on the case of former governor Benigno R. Fitial who will face sentencing next week.

Press Secretary Ivan Blanco said it is better to wait for sentencing before a statement from the Office of Governor is issued. "Let's wait until before the

sentencing and perhaps then we can comment on the case," Blanco said.

In an earlier interview via e-mail, CNMI Public Auditor Mi-

chael Pai said he does not have any comments "as the sentencing is still pending."

Legislators at Capital Hill also echoed the same comment, opting to find out what the sentencing will be before issuing comments.

Fitial pleaded guilty to the charges of misconduct in public office and conspiracy to commit theft of services in May.

Associate Judge David A. Wiseman will hold the sentencing on June 24 at 1:30pm.

Fitial on Friday requested a lenient sentence of no prison term, but Office of the Public Auditor legal counsel George L. Hasselback is recommending to slap

him with a two-year imprisonment with no parole, while chief prosecutor Leonardo Rapadas is recommending a sentence of more than a year in prison.

Hasselback, who is serving as a special prosecutor in the case, filed a memorandum Thursday last week that recommends a sentence of five years imprisonment, all suspended except for two years with no possibility of parole, a fine of \$5,000 and a 10-year ban on employment with the CNMI government.

Rapadas recommends a one-year sentence to be served at the Department of Corrections, with such sentence to be served consecutively to any sentence

imposed for count seven conspiracy to commit theft of services. Rapadas asks the court to impose a fine, with the amount at the court's discretion.

The offense of misconduct in public office refers to the time when Fitial had his masseuse—a female Chinese who was at that time a federal prisoner at the Department of Corrections—temporarily released so she could massage him at his house on Jan. 8, 2010.

The conspiracy to commit theft of services refers to Fitial's role in former attorney general Edward T. Buckingham's efforts to evade lawful service of process during his departure from the Commonwealth at the Francisco C. Ada-Saipan International Airport on Aug. 3 or 4, 2012. (Joel Pinaroc)

Aging Office raffle winners announced

The Office on Aging announced the winners of their raffle this year as part of the Saipan Senior Advisory Council's fundraising efforts.

Tickets were sold last month by participants of this year's Man'amkó King and Queen. Diego Pua and Minerva Maghanoy, who were hailed as king and queen, sold the most number of tickets.

"Thank you to all those who participated in helping the senior citizens raise funds. We truly appreciate their continued support to our elders and people with disabilities," Aging director Walter Manglona said.

"I also want to acknowledge the candidates themselves for tak-

ing part in this activity," he added.

"We want to thank the contestants. They are the ones who really made the effort to go out and sell. It's not easy to sell [tickets]," SSAC president Maria Salinas said.

Winners are asked to claim their prizes as soon as possible.

First prize winner of the \$500 cash was unnamed, but is the holder of the ticket number 3920. Roderick Hernandez was picked for the second prize, which is \$250 cash, while D.J. Ayuyu won the third prize which is a live pig.

Other draw winners are T.J. Caler, Wendell Posadas, Beltran Hermogenes, Maureen Cruz,

Adonis Santos, Erlinda Ngirai-buch, L.B. Camacho, Ana Katsukasa, Arnold Palacios, Mura Bricia, Bay Caasi, John Capuyon, Fernie Iida, Cristi Cabaltica, Luise Villagomez, Edward Mendiola, Jose Clarence Tenorio, Pacita Angeles, Malou Malasarte, Ian Maghanoy, Domingo Magbitang, Juan Villagomez, Choice Ray, Reynaldo Cabaltica, and the holder of ticket number 2570.

Prizes include various household items and appliances such as toaster, rice cooker, blender, coffeemaker, and microwave.

Winners should present their ticket stubs upon claiming of the prizes. Deadline of claiming is on July 5. (Frauline S. Villanueva)



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Let's Move Marianas expo on Tinian a success



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Children and other community members take part in an exercise activity as part of the 2015 Let's Move Marianas and Week of the Young Child Tinian Expo last Saturday at Tinian Elementary School.

By JAYSON CAMACHO

jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Let's Move Marianas and Week of the Young Child 2015 expo last Saturday was a complete success with over 200 members of the Tinian community taking part in the event.

Tinian Health Center, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s Division of Public Health, Tinian Public Library, the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, and the Let's Move Marianas Alliance coalesced to stage the 2015 expo that was held from 9am to 1pm at the Tinian Elementary School.

The event offered a variety of positive, health-related information and activities to support the community of Tinian in making changes toward a healthy and active lifestyle.

DPH diabetes project assistant and Let's Move Marianas coordinator Amber Lynn Mendiola said that certified representatives from Northern Marianas Athletics and other involved agencies also conducted a four-sectioned obstacle course.

"Many participants loved the activity. Tinian Health Center provided flu vaccines for the community. Fruits and sandwiches were available

throughout the event. Some of the team arrived on Tinian since Thursday and conducted meetings with community members and outreach to the school," Mendiola said.

"The event started with the walk from Tinian Elementary School, around the village, and back. The participants were then broken into age groups to start the fun activities. Other exhibitors were Partners in Print and CNMI Head Start. The Childcare and Development Fund showcased programs for young children and presented to parents about childcare services in the CNMI," she added.



Participants have fun with the obstacle course during last Saturday's activities for the expo held on Tinian under Let's Move Marianas and Week of the Young Child programs.

DPH aims to provide preventive health services and educate the community on the prevention and/ control of non-communicable diseases and address behavioral health that would empower the island's community to make healthy lifestyle choices and by knowing what services and resources are available on the island of Tinian.

"This is an annual event. And the Let's Move Marianas Alliance is working on projects for the next year such as Community Gardens, Workplace Wellness, and working with community organizations to increase physical activity in the villages," Mendiola said.

Collaborating agencies included DPH's Non-Communicable Disease Bureau, DCCA-Childcare and Development Fund, JKPL, DCC-Division of Youth Services, Northern Marianas College, Northern Marianas Athletics, CNMI Headstart, Northern Marianas Humanities Council's Motherread Father-

Managaha Beach red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged Managaha Beach and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of this location for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainage every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. (DEQ)

Claiming of food stamp replacement due to Dolphin begins today

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
frauline_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Claiming of food stamp replacements from the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs' Nutrition Assistance Program will begin today.

Households who submitted declarations of food stamp losses as a result of Typhoon Dolphin can pick up the replacements for their NAP coupon.

According to NAP director Walter Macaranas, a total of 751 households filed for a replacement. Some 550 replacements were filed in Saipan and Northern Islands.

NAP scheduled days for replacement pick-ups per island.

For Saipan and Northern Islands, those who filed can claim today until Friday, June 19, from 8am to 4:30pm at the JTV Building in As Lito.

Those who applied for replacements on Tinian can claim tomorrow, Thursday, from 8:30am to 4:30pm at the San Jose Gym, while those on Rota may claim on Friday also from 8:30am to 4:30pm at the NMC Rota Instructional Site, Room 1A.

In its announcement, NAP reminded the households that it requires them to bring their NAP ID card along with a valid photo identification card in or-

der to pick up their coupon replacements.

The issued NAP coupon replacements to eligible households will be valid up to June 30, 2015.

For more information, individuals may contact the NAP Saipan office at 664-2800, the Tinian DCCA office (Marla Sablan) at 433-9330, or the Rota DCCA office (Donna Ogo) at 532-9351.

read Program, and DPH-Early Childhood Comprehensive.

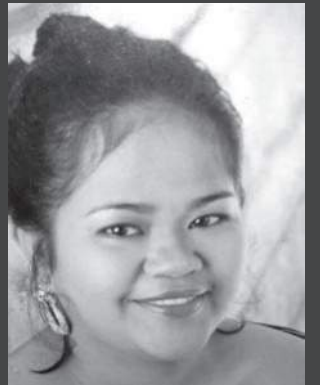
Mendiola also said that they would like to thank Tinian government agencies that helped with the collaboration including the Tinian Mayor's Office, Tinian Elementary School, Tinian Public Library, CNMI Head Start on Tinian, Tinian Jr./Sr. High School, and DCCA on Tinian.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

We may be thousands of miles away, however, our love for you Mom remains the same. As you celebrate your golden year we wish you nothing but love, blessings, and good health. We love you and miss you so much, your children, Crystal Lyn and family, Jaetany, Doris and family, Jesus and family, and Alice and Jun.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday to our mom, Zina Camacho Nekaifes. Mom, no one can ever take your place in our hearts. We love you forever and ever. No matter where we go or whom we meet, you will always be No. 1 to us. From your kids.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

June 17, 2004

3 arrested for alleged robbery

Authorities took into custody three men allegedly involved in Monday morning's armed robbery incident at a poker establishment in Garapan. According to Department of Public Safety public information officer Sgt. Thomas A. Blas Jr., the three male suspects were arrested the night of the incident after investigation by the Thief Apprehension Select Coalition team of the Criminal Investigation Bureau revealed their identities. Arrested were 18-year-old Vincent John Castro, 19-year-old Vincent San Nicolas Norita, and 19-year-old Moses Martin. The three suspects, reportedly armed

with knives and a baseball bat, allegedly robbed the RC Poker located on the first floor of the Cabrera Center at about 2:53am. Blas said the suspects stole over \$3,000 in cash and coins from the cash box, and a pouch owned by the cashier, 26-year-old Zhen Ben Li.

Man sentenced to 15 months in prison

The U.S. District Court sentenced a man convicted on a drug-related charge to 15 months in prison. Chief Judge Alex R. Munson imposed the prison term on Jesse A. Villagomez, who pleaded guilty on a count of conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute a controlled substance, particularly methamphetamine hydrochloride or "ice." After

the imposition of the 15-month prison term on the defendant, Bowers asked the court to dismiss two other criminal counts against Villagomez, which the judge granted.

June 17, 2005

Extension in hiring of alien workers at NMC sought

Saying there is still a need for it, a lawmaker is proposing to extend up to 2012 the hiring of nonresident workers at the Northern Marianas College. Rep. Justo S. Quitugua introduced House Bill 14-329, which aims to amend 3 CMC section 4434 to extend the hiring of nonresident workers at the college and to mandate a manpower training and educational plan. The existing law allows NMC to hire nonresident workers as instructors, research scientists, and other technical and professionals, provided that they are graduates of U.S. universities and colleges and U.S.

accredited institutions. This provision expires on Sept. 30 this year. One year after the bill is enacted, he said, the college shall submit to the Legislature a comprehensive manpower training and educational plan "in order to replace the nonresident workers."

Tremors continue at Anatahan

Seismicity on Anatahan significantly increased Thursday, reaching its highest level in the last two months and surpassing tremor levels during last Saturday's eruption. The volcano's ash emission, however, appeared tamer, although the U.S. Geological Survey and the Emergency Management Office reported that a dense ash cloud continued rising to 10,000 feet yesterday. The agencies said small long-period earthquakes and explosions occurred as often as several per minute. They said tremor levels remained high yesterday, although

they were slightly lower than Thursday's seismicity levels. They pointed out that conditions could change rapidly, and volcanic activity could just suddenly escalate.

June 17, 2008

4.4 quake hits CNMI

A 4.4 magnitude earthquake shook parts of the Mariana islands yesterday at 11:09am but there were no immediate reports of damage or injuries. According to the Emergency Management Office, the earthquake had a preliminary magnitude of 4.4 on the Richter scale and had a depth of about 21.7 miles, located about 140 miles southwest of Anatahan, 115 miles west of Saipan, 120 miles northwest of Tinian and 105 miles northwest of Rota. EMO said yesterday that, based on all available data, a destructive Pacific-wide tsunami is not expected and there is no tsunami threat to the Marianas.

Tinian 'ice' traffickers

gets 6 months

The federal court imposed yesterday a six-month prison term on a man who admitted selling methamphetamine or "ice" on Tinian. U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Alex R. Munson said that after completing his prison term, Tian Yun Huang shall be placed on three years of supervised release. Among the conditions of Huang's supervised release is that the 40-year-old Chinese national shall be delivered to an immigration official for deportation proceedings. A Drug Enforcement Administration special agent stated in his report that on Jan. 9, 2008, detectives from the Department of Public Safety debriefed a confidential source regarding "ice" traffickers on Tinian. The source disclosed that a man known as Ma was distributing "ice" from his residence in Turn Key Housing in San Jose, Tinian. The agents later discovered that Ma was Huang.

DURING ANNUAL GUAM GUARD TRAINING Engineers conduct debris clearing, removal operations



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Soldiers from the Guam Army National Guard's 1224th Engineer Support Company conduct clearing operations at the Wusstig Road dumpsite in Yigo, making way for more debris, during their on-going annual training in Guam.

The 1224th Engineer Support Company (ESC) of the Guam National Guard has cleared and removed almost 1,700 cubic yards of debris from various sites throughout the island during annual training.

The 1224th Engineer Support Company (1224ESC) are utilizing a variety of heavy equipment, such as dump trucks, graders, dozers and loaders, during their annual training, which began last week, to perform community projects, such as debris clearing and removal, which provide valuable experience and training for the soldiers while giving back to the community.

The engineers have removed 156 cubic yards of debris from the Agana Swimming Pool in Hagatna; 117 cubic yards from Pulantat in Yona; 104 cubic

yards from Chalan Pago; 156 cubic yards from Agana Heights



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Soldiers from the Guam Army National Guard's 1224th Engineer Support Company conduct trenching operations in support of the 554th Red Horse Squadron, at Northwest Field, during their on-going annual training in Guam.

and 10 cubic yards from Yigo. In addition to the debris removal, the soldiers conducted tree cutting and clearing by hand.



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They also cleared and prepared dumpsites at Oka Point in Tamuning and along Wusstig Road in anticipation of receiving more green waste.

The training also included assisting our sister service, the 554th Red Horse Squadron with grading and trenching operations at Northwest Field.

They are receiving support from the Guam Army National

Guard's Hulu Company (H Co), who is also conducting annual training, and providing feeding services to the 1224ESC Soldiers.

All soldiers on annual training are also validating their training on military specific tasks, such as weapons qualification, convoy operations, land navigation, and driver's training. (PR)

"ALWAYS ROCKIN!"

T
GALLERIA

Hard Rock
CAFE

The
Hard Rock Cafe

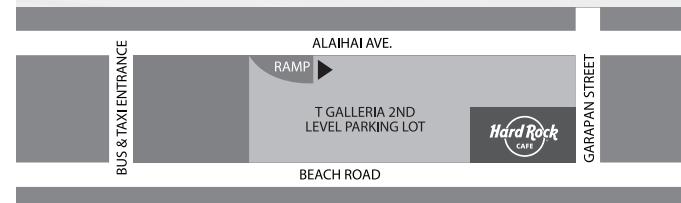
is open from 10:30am to 10:30pm daily with the best parking on island - 129 parking stalls atop the Galleria Mall next to the restaurant doors.

Enter ramp on Alaihi Avenue behind T-Galleria

If on foot, enter through the southern end of the T Galleria by the big guitar.

Hard Rock Cafe is giving 10% discount on food and merchandise to CNMI residents.

Private Function Room for Special Events & Special Group Menus and Discounts Available.



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\$110 GIFT CERTIFICATE PACKAGE

Some conditions will be applied. CNMI Residents ONLY.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Obamacare after the Supreme Court ruling

The U.S. Supreme Court is expected to rule within days on a key part of the Affordable Care Act, a ruling that could strip away federal subsidies that millions of people receive for their health insurance.

The issue: Whether the law provides subsidies only to people who signed up for insurance through an exchange established and run by a state. The problem is, 37 states rely on the federal health care exchange.

Many people would find their insurance is too expensive without the subsidy. For that matter, many people will find their insurance is too expensive in the coming months, subsidy or not, because rates are rising swiftly.

The court may well find a way to rule that the law permits the subsidies, but it's not hard to see a majority going the other way and taking a strict interpretation of the ACA language. Then, absent a change in the law, the subsidies would vanish.

The Obama administration and Republican leaders of Congress have had months to prepare for that possibility. So what's their backup? They don't have one.

Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia Burwell affirmed last week that the administration has no contingency plans set to roll out if the court rules against Obamacare. "The critical decisions will sit with Congress and states and governors," she said at a congressional hearing.

Most states have done little or nothing to prepare. The states won't be able to set up their own exchanges in time to avoid disruption. Illinois Gov. Bruce Rauner's office says he will take "appropriate action" depending on how the court rules, but he won't elaborate on what that will be.

So ... Congress?

"Congress could fix this whole thing with a one-sentence provision," President Barack Obama said in a recent speech to the Catholic Health Association.

Technically, yes, it could. But it won't. Republicans have chanted "repeal and replace" for years.

The GOP leadership should, though, prepare to cushion the impact and buy time to pass a reimagining of Obamacare.

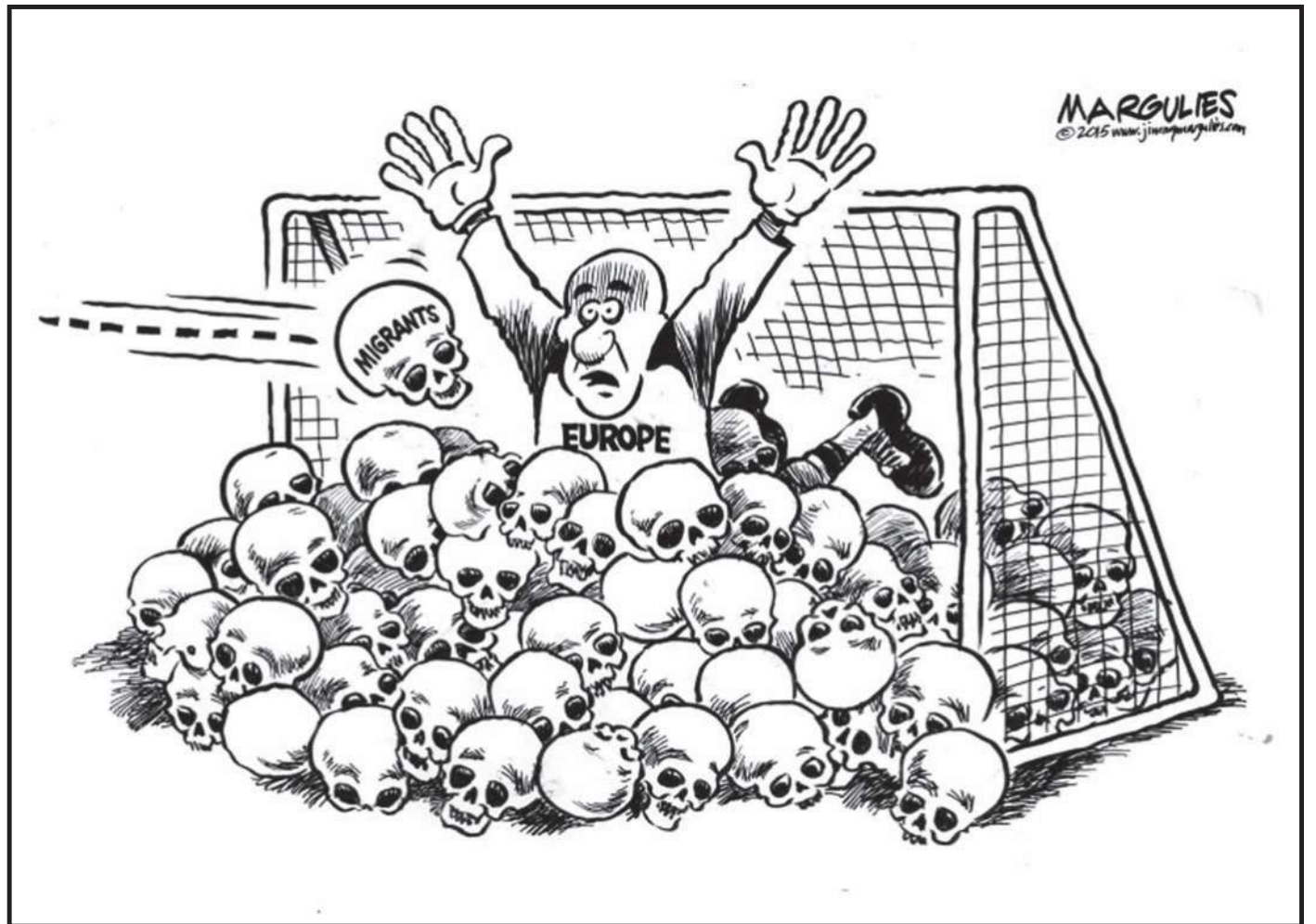
Republican Sen. Ron Johnson of Wisconsin has proposed to make a temporary fix and extend the subsidies through mid-2017, so people won't abruptly lose health care coverage. That will also give Congress, governors and a new president time to plot a new course.

The law needs to change regardless of how the court rules. One alternative, the Patient CARE Act, has many elements that could attract bipartisan support. The proposal from Republican Sens. Richard Burr of North Carolina and Orrin Hatch of Utah and Rep. Fred Upton of Michigan would end the mandate that individuals buy coverage and that employers provide it. It would end taxes that shore up Obamacare spending. It would give consumers more flexibility and choice, allowing insurers to fit policies to consumers' needs and their pocketbooks.

At the same time, two widely praised benefits would remain: Insurers wouldn't deny coverage because of pre-existing conditions and young adults could be covered on their parents' plan until age 26. Other Republicans and Democrats have ideas to free insurance markets and help more people buy affordable insurance.

The Supreme Court could soon jolt millions of people by ruling that Obamacare subsidies violate the law. If that's how the ruling goes, let's hope it jolts Washington to do something about it.

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When Americans think of veterans, they rarely think of women. That should change

Since 9/11, more than 200,000 women have been deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan, and more than 160 women have died in service to their country. Women have fought on the front lines as combat pilots and military police platoon leaders. They have received Silver Stars and Bronze Stars for Valor. Some have even joined special operations forces on combat missions.

Yet when people think of veterans, they rarely think of women.

As the veterans organization the Mission Continues found in a survey out this week of female veterans, a "common theme among our respondents was a perception of invisibility both in the service and at home. While in uniform, nearly two-thirds of respondents said they had to work harder than men to prove themselves. When those women left the military, barely a third (37 percent) said they felt recognized, respected and valued by society for their contributions as veterans."

One veteran in Minnesota told me recently that when she tried to join a local veterans organization, she was guided to the women's auxiliary rather than the group for service members.

Another soldier based at Ft. Bragg told me that she saw a mandatory counselor after her tour in Afghanistan, who said that even though she "did not see combat" and was "mostly on base," she might have some re-entry issues. He had no idea that she had served an eight-month tour as part of a special operations team of women and had been on night raids several times a week throughout her deployment.

And a few months back, a North Carolina Air Force veteran who served in Kuwait set off a media storm when she told local reporters about a nasty note she discovered after she left her car in a spot marked "Veteran Parking."

"This space is reserved for those who fought for America ... not you," read the missive Mary Claire Caine found stuck to her windshield.

"I think they took one look at me when I got out of my car and saw that I was a woman and assumed I wasn't a veteran and assumed I hadn't served my country," Caine said at the time. "They have this image of what today's American veteran is, and honestly, if you've served in the United States military, you know that veterans come in all shapes and sizes."

Evidently America is still thinking small, even as women in uniform make strides on the country's behalf.

Recent history is full of stories of women breaking new ground. The first woman to fly the F-35, the Air Force's "premier fighter," took to the skies last month. Years earlier she had flown combat

By **GAYLE TZEMACH LEMMON**
Los Angeles Times

Gayle Tzemach Lemmon is a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations and the author most recently of "Ashley's War: The Untold Story of a Team of Women Soldiers on the Special Ops Battlefield." She wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.



missions in Afghanistan. The Navy's Blue Angels have their first female pilot this year.

Army Ranger school recently opened to women for the first time. No women made it through the first phase of the course. But 19 women qualified. And 42 percent of them made it through the grueling physical tests of the first four days, compared with 48 percent of men. Three will soon try once more.

The gap between women's service and our perceptions has consequences; it makes female veterans' reentry into American society especially challenging.

Many do not self-identify as veterans and do not apply for the help and the services — from housing to healthcare to job placement — they could receive once they return home.

The Los Angeles Times reported Monday that female veterans "commit suicide at nearly six times the rate of other women" — and perhaps not surprisingly, at nearly the same rate as their brothers-in-arms. In the piece, experts noted with concern that female veterans lack a "sense of belonging," which can exacerbate depression.

In the two years I spent reporting on women who served on the front lines with special ops in 2011, I found that community sustained the soldiers in this pilot program while they were on the battlefield and, even more so, when they returned home. While the rest of the Army and the entire United States had no idea what they had done and seen, they at least had one another to rely on. They are now family for life, one another's career coaches and marriage counselors and best friends.

Such do-it-yourself community-building is critical and important, but female veterans also need a nation that recognizes and celebrates them.

Whenever female veterans do receive a mention in public life, the focus tends to be on their suffering. The media leads with stories of military sexual trauma and post-traumatic stress disorder.

Without doubt these are very real problems that must be addressed. According to the California Department of Veterans Affairs, nearly three-quarters of female veterans living in the state reported experiencing sexual harassment, and 40 percent reported experiencing sexual assault while in the military. Homelessness is also a critical issue.

But by defining female veterans by their victimhood, we leave out a crucial part of their service: their valor. Women have shown courage, grit and heart on the battlefield. They have already proved themselves on the front lines and in service, even if our national narrative hasn't yet recognized it.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Parents, teach kids how to cope before they fly the coop

For six months when I was in college, I just couldn't sleep. I dreaded going to bed; I knew I would wake up minutes later drenched in sweat, running tomorrow's to-do list through my head.

My bed became the enemy. I was overworked, overtired, overbooked. I didn't have time for sleep.

But when I looked at other students who had as much or more work than I did, I felt an overwhelming sense of guilt. How did these people sleep at night?

So I would call my parents for advice. I was looking for some comfort, a subtle nod that I was doing the right thing. All I usually got, though, was a "You'll be fine, honey."

And I'm grateful for it.

Anxiety is the No. 1 mental health concern presented by students to counseling centers at American college campuses, according to a recent study of more than 100,000 students by the Center for Collegiate Mental Health at Penn State University. Anxiety pushed past the former reigning champ, depression.

The study asked clinicians at college counseling centers to list students' top mental health concerns. Anxiety disorders and generalized anxiety were lumped together as one. They swept the board, outstripping stress, relationship problems and academic performance.

The cause? Some psychologists are pointing their fingers toward parents.

Dan Jones, director of counseling and psychological services at

Appalachian State University in Boone, N.C., told The New York Times on May 27 that "a lot (of students) are coming to school who don't have the resilience of previous generations. They can't tolerate discomfort or having to struggle. A primary symptom is worrying, and they don't have the ability to soothe themselves."

So, parents, own up.

I am a recent college graduate, and I saw students arrive at college unprepared for their new freedom and flexibility. They turned up with poor time-management skills and relied on support from home to make decisions of all sizes. The moment unhappiness or uncertainty struck, it was either a phone call to mom or an appointment at the counseling center.

Colleges have been forced to become pseudo-parents, offering freshmen seminar classes that teach students how to use their time and create feasible schedules.

In French, there are two words for what young people learn: l'instruction and l'education. L'instruction is what students learn in school. L'education, however, is what they learn at home. Life education—that's what we're missing here.

American schools (and their counseling centers) are burdened with teaching students what they should have learned at home. That's not their job. Schools engage and challenge; they shouldn't have to coddle too.

Parents need to step it up when their kids are young. Give them the skills needed to be successful, well-organized adults. Then, after high school graduation, slip into the background.

By **ELIZABETH GREIWE**

Chicago Tribune



Elizabeth Greiwe is the Chicago Tribune's Editorial Board coordinator.

I know, I know—technology makes it so easy for parents to virtually go to college with their children. But back off on Facebook. Lay off the texting. Nix the weekly phone and Skype calls.

Instead, encourage kids to fly the coop. Show them respect by instilling the sense of responsibility that being an adult affords.

For students who have diagnosed anxiety disorders, this is a different battle. Many of them come to college on medication and need strong support from family and mental health professionals.

But for the rest who wander into a college mental health center burned out from finals and a full schedule, let them struggle. Flounder. Fall.

Because, just as my parents assured me, they will be fine. A little bit of anxiety is just part of life.

Next time your college student calls for advice, just tell him or her to get some sleep.

Equal application of ethics law

The public auditor advised legislators that taking the "all-expenses paid trip" to Singapore relating to the "integrated resort" is illegal and in violation of the ethics law. But this isn't the issue!

At issue is the equal application of ethics law against those who took earlier trips to Hong Kong and Macau as the casino legislation goes through several rounds of drafting as explained by fellow columnist Haidee Eugenio. Is OPA up to the job?

Lt. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, Sen. President Victor Hocog, House Floor Leader Ralph Demapan, and Sens. Francisco Borja and Francisco Cruz took the trip; the ethics law was existence since then. Culpability? Give them their due process rights but they must be investigated and prosecuted!

Hope we're not inured with corruption that seemed to have metastasized and in full bloom here since recent past. We need an answer Mr. OPA, specifically, your disposition of an earlier infraction involving all five public officials. Let's show lawmakers that no one is above the law!

Stagnancy: We've ventured in and out of economic stagnancy land puzzled at the use of insanity juggling the same figures hop-

ing for different results to no avail. The exercise has morphed into a tired narrative. We stare it down as though it would give positive derivatives but the results are the same each trip to the mound.

Why the refinement of redundancy? This requires venturing outside the box to see if new paradigms would give us something innovative. But we prefer taking the quick exit sleepwalking it in grand mañana. Obviously, we're fearful doing the right thing by doing it right lest it might work in our favor. Are you scared of your own shadows?

Useless Turbine: I used to marvel at the installation of six turbines at Southern High School. It's supposed to be a model of alternative energy. Unfortunately, the foundation and stall turned into venues for birds. It was never completed. How was this project funded? Is the failure one of lack of technical competency? If so, then PSS must litigate the issue to get back scarce funds.

Constitutional: Either legislators are simply displaying ignorance or are factually clobbered by serious reading deficiency. You're constitutionally prohibited from interfering with the "management, use and disposition of public land." It is intended to keep filthy politics out of the realm of overly generous politicians who

are likely to become depressed and have low self-esteem. Others who experience bullying may resort to substance abuse to cope with their trauma. Others still engage in violent behavior or become bullies themselves.

As a community we must come together to prevent harm from coming to our youth as we work toward the safety of all our students. This June stand up and speak out against bullying in order to end the climate of the Bystander Bully (those who see it, but do nothing to stop it) and support programs that aim to prevent substance abuse in our youth.

For more information on Bullying and/or Substance Abuse, please contact the helpful people at the Community Guidance Center (323-6560/1) or contact us at NMPASI (235-7273/4).

Greg Borja

*Projects specialist
NMPASI*

Food truck redux

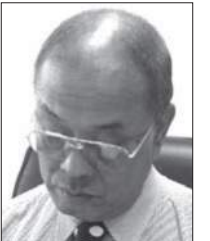
The Shawarma Boy food truck is not the first and only. In the mid-1990s there was another that used to park near the present Naked Fish resto complete with outside palapa, chairs, and tables. Years before that an ice cream truck with bells tinkling used go through the villages and also park across the Sugar King Park on what was once an empty lot that now is the Taro Sue Store. The ice cream truck was mine before I put up Taro Sue in the early 1990s.

Lee Andersen

Via e-mail

By **JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**

Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.

instantly spout without brain in gear.

Quick look at their performance rating: Bankrupted CUC, CHCC, and the Settlement Fund or retirement. Now, it wishes to spread its venomous filthy fingers into other areas to ensure destruction of the highest order!

Sen. Francisco Borja of Tinian said, "It isn't bad having additional protection." The language of the Covenant Agreement on this issue is in plain simple English. The preamble of the U.S. Constitution prominently declares national defense as the primary role of the national government. The agreement acknowledges the supremacy of laws. How did you do in our civics courses, sir?

Origin of Type II Diabetes

As a diabetic, I've gone through bouts of change from "borderline" to "online" and now all "other" line. It's a single disease that moves into other long-term illnesses if you're careless. You'd eventually hit the chronic level that leads into amputation, kidney failure and serious heart problems. I've seen it all; no fun trip either and very costly too!

Mayo Clinic research material says that Type Two Diabetes begins with pancreatic malfunction. This organ has two glands (exocrine and endocrine), one secretes natural sugar (insulin); the other regulates sugar level in our blood system.

When their functions fail, insulin isn't released to break down sugar from food we eat before it reaches the small intestine. When simple and complicated sugar isn't broken down then it isn't turned into energy and body building blocks in our system.

It is at this point that unbroken sugar clogs up in our blood system. It's like a sewer backup. It is also here that the path to diabetes begins. If it reaches chronic level it leads to kidney failure, amputations, and serious heart problems.

Interesting what causes pancreatic malfunction: it's genetics (it's in the blood), virus (viral infection that kills both exocrine and endocrine glands) and dietary habit. It would be good if the health-care system could commission a study to pin down how indigenous Chamolinians contract pancreatic malfunction. It should lead to greater clarity how do we approach resolving a blurred health issue that easily affects the entire global population.

It's good to get a clear understanding of it including dealing with preventing pancreatic malfunction as a way to ease it. It seems the trigger to other debilitating long-term illnesses.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Student safety first

June 2015 is National Student Safety Month. This is a time in which we look at the overall safety of our students when it comes to planning for natural disasters, technology, infrastructure, man-made disasters, biological awareness, physical well-being, and student culture and climate. We must also take into consideration our students with disabilities when developing our plans to address these areas.

Bullying, drugs, or violent behavior are in the spotlight when it comes to student safety in terms of their culture and climate. Bullying is when someone is repeatedly mistreated physically, verbally, and/or socially, because of differences they may have from others. Other forms of bullying include the use of technology to verbally or socially attack someone known as Cyber-Bullying. Students who are bullied may show signs of poor school performance as a result of trying to avoid being the target of bullying. The National Bullying Prevention Center reports that researchers discovered that students with disabilities were more worried about school safety and being injured or harassed by other peers compared to students without a disability. One study shows that 60 percent of students with disabilities report being bullied regularly compared with 25 percent of all students.

The consequences associated with students who are subjected to bullying may lead to increased risk of mental health problems, and

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
East winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲87° ▼77°

THURSDAY

Partly sunny with isolated showers.
East winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲87° ▼77°

FRIDAY

Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲87° ▼78°

SATURDAY

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲88° ▼78°

SUNDAY

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲88° ▼78°

Yesterday's Satellite Image

PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, JUNE 16, 2015
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A near-equatorial trough runs east-southeastward from 7N130E through a weak circulation centered south of Koror near 5N135E then continues southeastward to end near EQ148E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are occurring around Yap and Koror within 175 miles of a line running southeastward from 12N131E to 8N141E and well south of Koror between 2N and the equator from 133E to 140E and south of the Marianas between 8N to 4N from 144E to 149E. Another near-equatorial trough curves northeastward from well south of Chuuk at EQ153E to near Kosrae at 6N165E then eastward to end southeast of Majuro at 5N173E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are occurring south of Chuuk and Pohnpei and over Kosrae between the equator and 7N from 150E to 164E and over the Marshall Islands between the equator and 10N from 164E to 175E. A tropical disturbance is centered east of Tarawa near 3N178E with scattered showers and a few thunderstorms south of a line from 5N175E to 5N180. An upper-level low centered northwest of Wake Island near 25N164E is triggering scattered showers within 150 miles of 23N168E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Thundershowers	▲86	▼82
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼79
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼79
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼80
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼78
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼80
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼81

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲62	▼54
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼65
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲90	▼82
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼73
London	Mostly Cloudy	▲75	▼56
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼64
Manila	Thundershowers	▲90	▼78
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	▲58	▼50
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲89	▼78
New York	Thundershowers	▲85	▼67
Osaka	Showers	▲83	▼70
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲78	▼61
Pusan	Mostly Cloudy	▲77	▼65
Rome	Thunderstorms	▲77	▼64
Salem	Mostly Sunny	▲81	▼51
San Francisco	Fog	▲66	▼53
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲89	▼65
Tokyo	Rain	▲78	▼67
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲94	▼72

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
3:08 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
8:04 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
3:29 PM	Today	Low Tide:	-0.5 Feet
10:26 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	5:48 AM	6:49 PM
Thursday	5:48 AM	6:49 PM
Friday	5:48 AM	6:49 PM
Saturday	5:48 AM	6:49 PM
Sunday	5:49 AM	6:50 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	6:12 AM	7:20 PM
Thursday	7:06 AM	8:11 PM
Friday	7:59 AM	8:59 PM
Saturday	8:51 AM	9:43 PM
Sunday	9:41 AM	10:25 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 28, 2015											
DEPARTURES						ARRIVALS					
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)						GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN					
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily			UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily		
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3			UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3		
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7			UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7		
UA5039	2:15pm	3:55pm	6, 7 via Rota			UA5039	12:55pm	1:45pm	6, 7		
UA5078	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 5			UA5038	1:00pm	2:35pm	2, 4 via Rota		
UA5038	3:05pm	3:55pm	2, 4			UA5077	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 5		
UA5040	6:55pm	7:45pm	1, 5			UA5041	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 5		
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7			UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7		
UA5044	10:40pm	11:30pm	1, 5			UA5043	9:20pm	10:10pm	1, 5		
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)						GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)					
UA5039	2:15pm	2:50pm	6, 7			UA5038	1:00pm	1:35pm	2, 4		
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)						ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN					
UA5039	3:20pm	3:55pm	6, 7			UA5038	2:00pm	2:35pm	2, 4		
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)						PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN					
DL287	6:05am	1:05am+1	2, 6 via NRT			DL298	4:30am	2:55pm	3, 7 via NRT		
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)						NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN					
DL287	6:05am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 6			DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily		
DL297	4:30pm	7:15pm	Daily			DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7		
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)						SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN					
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1			7C3402	9:30am	3:20pm	1, 2, 4, 7		
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			7C3402	10:55am	4:25pm	3, 5, 6		
7C3403	4:35am	8:20am	1, 2, 5, 6, 7			OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7		
7C3403	5:25am	9:10am	3, 4			OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6		
7C3401	4:20pm	8:05pm	1, 2, 4, 7			7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily		
7C3401	5:25pm	9:10pm	3, 5, 6								
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)						BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN					
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7			OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6		
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)						SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN					
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7			3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7		
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)						BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN					
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7			MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6		
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)						GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN					
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6			3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5		
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)						MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN					
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN			DL276/288	9:30am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT		
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM			OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
UA5070/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	Daily via GUM			OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM			PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM		
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	8:05am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM		
DL287/275	6:05am	9:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT			UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM			UA184/5039	10:25pm	1:45pm+1	6 via GUM		
UA5068/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM			UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:35pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota		
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:10pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			UA184/5077	10:25pm	2:35pm+1	4, 7 via GUM		
UA5039/183	2:15pm	9:10pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM			UA184/5041	10:25pm	6:25pm+1	4, 7 via GUM		
UA5038/183	3:05pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM			UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 6 via GUM		
UA5078/183	3:05pm	8:50pm	5 via GUM			UA184/5043	10:25pm	10:10pm+1	4, 7 via GUM		
UA5078/183	3:05pm	9:10pm	1 via GUM			UA184/5071	11:30pm	7:30am+1	2 via GUM		
UA5038/183	3:05pm	9:10pm	4 via GUM			UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	5 via GUM		
						UA184/5071	11:30pm	1:45pm+1	5 via GUM		
						UA184/5077	11:30pm	8:05pm+1	2, 5 via GUM		
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)						HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN					
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN			OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA5070/179	4:15am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM			UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM		
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM			UA180/5039	9:55pm	1:45pm+1	5, 6 via GUM		
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM			UA180/5077	9:55pm	2:40pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota		
UA5039/179	2:15pm	9:55pm	6 via Rota-GUM			UA180/5077	9:55pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM		
UA5078/179	3:05pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via GUM								

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

Restaurant pays nearly \$113K in tips, back wages, damages to 120 employees

Pineapple Grill in Kapalua, Hawaii has paid back \$112,980 in tips, other back wages, and liquidated damages to 120 employees for the violations found under the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Investigators from the Wage and Hour Division in Honolulu found that the cash wages of tipped employees were reduced below the minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour, while the servers were unlawfully required to pay a portion of their tips to the kitchen staff that was already paid at or above the full mini-

mum wage. “Employers must count and pay for all hours worked by employees, including required duties that occur before and after the servers’ scheduled shift,” said Terence Trotter, the division’s district director in Honolulu. “The Fair Labor Standards Act also prohibits any arrangement between employers and tipped employees where any part of the tip received from the customer becomes the property of the employer.” Additionally, investigators

found that servers were required to report to the restaurant before the start of their evening shifts to clean glassware, fill up salt and pepper shakers, and polish the silverware without compensation. For more information about federal wage laws administered by the Wage and Hour Division, call the agency’s toll-free helpline at 866-4US-WAGE (487-9243), or the Honolulu office at 808-541-1361. Information is also available at <http://www.dol.gov/whd>. (PR)

FOLLOWING LAST MONTH’S DAMAGE FROM CONCERT Calvo, Morrison discuss future use of Paseo Stadium

Gov. Eddie Calvo and Sen. Tommy Morrison recently discussed the concerns of Guam’s baseball community regarding Paseo Stadium’s playing field, which was damaged during a huge concert earlier this month.

With more than \$700,000 already designated for the repair of various facilities at Paseo Stadium within the next several months, Calvo and Morrison agreed that efforts must be made to ensure that the playing field in Guam’s premier public baseball facility is properly prepared to serve the needs of our sports community—and events related to educational, cultural, tourism, and other approved activities.

Certain sections of Paseo Stadium’s playing field was damaged by vehicles and heavy equipment that were used during last month’s concert.

After learning that the playing field was damaged, members of Guam’s baseball community sought Morrison’s assistance in restricting the use of Paseo Stadium for sports events and


activities. The recent damage, and the anticipated length for recovery, have forced members of Guam’s baseball community to delay the scheduling of various youth and adult leagues until the playing field is safely restored.

To help ensure that Paseo Stadium remains available for use by the sports community, Morrison introduced Bill No. 120-33 (COR) which seeks to limit the use of Paseo Stadium and the nearby Jose C. Guerrero Field for sports events and activities. According to Morrison, “other areas within Hagåtña, including the huge parking area adjacent to Paseo Stadium, should be able to meet the logistical needs of huge concerts and similar events.”


“In light of my preliminary conversations with Governor Calvo and his senior staff, there appears to be a path forward that could accommodate non-sporting events and activities in the future—without compromising Paseo Stadium’s playing field. I appreciate Governor Calvo’s commitment to work with me

in finding a balance on this issue. Interestingly, understanding baseball popularity and the success of the Guam Major League (GML) and youth baseball, the construction of Paseo Stadium in 1981 was made possible with the full support of his father, former Governor Paul Calvo. I thank everyone who has contributed to this issue and I look forward to strengthening Bill No. 120-33 (COR),” concluded Morrison.

For additional information regarding information contained in this press release, please contact Senator Morrison’s office at 478-8669 or send an e-mail to tommy@senatormorrison.com. (PR)



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BIDS

DPW-15-IFB-007

CONSTRUCTION OF FILE ROOM EXTENSION FOR THE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING OFFICE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, SAIPAN, CNMI

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the **Construction of file room extension for the Finance and Accounting Office, Department of Finance, Saipan**, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **June 17, 2015** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **July 06, 2015, 9:00 a.m.** local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. **All** questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **July 15, 2015** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying **all** prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify **all** persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9829/9838 no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW-15-IFB-007"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time **July 24, 2015**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time **July 24, 2015**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **July 24, 2015** and must be received no later than **August 04, 2015**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, **August 05, 2015**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:30 a.m. local time, on **July 24, 2015**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (**\$25,000.00**) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **\$70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of **all** outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:


- 1) Cash
- 2) US Gov't Securities
- 3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- 4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- 5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **One Hundred Twenty (120) working days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **One Hundred Dollars (US\$100.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.;

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or **all** bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

CPA TELEPHONE SYSTEM UPGRADE, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-003-15

Notice is hereby given that the Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is accepting sealed proposals subject to the terms and conditions of this Request for Proposals (RFP), and other contract provisions, for proposals from interested vendors for the upgrade of CPA's telephone system. The successful proposer shall perform the upgrade of CPA Telephone System with modifications for allowable future upgrades as the need arise at the Saipan International Airport, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This RFP is issued pursuant to Chapter 40-50, Procurement Rules and Regulations of Title 40 of the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIAC). Title 40, including Chapter 40-50225, Request for Proposals, is applicable to the process followed by the RFP.

The Proposal Package which includes the Scope of Work will be available on Friday, June 5, 2015 and may be obtained at the office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor, Arrival Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Saipan during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, 7:30 am to 4:30 pm except CNMI Holidays.

Questions and/or clarifications regarding this RFP, the Telephone System Upgrade and its specifications shall be submitted in writing to MaryAnn Q. Lizama/Executive Director and faxed to 670-234-5962 or emailed to cpa.molizama@pticom.com with copy to JoyAnn Deleon Guerrero at email joydlo@cpa.gov.mp no later than Thursday, June 25, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.

A mandatory pre-proposal conference will be held at 10:00 a.m. on June 22, 2015, at the CPA Airport Conference Room at the Saipan International Airport. Attendance at this conference is mandatory to ensure the proposers' understanding of the project requirements. Proposals submitted by proposers who are not in attendance at this mandatory conference will be rejected.

Sealed proposals must be marked "CPA TELEPHONE SYSTEM UPGRADE, CPA-RFP-003-15" and shall be delivered to the office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport, no later than 4:30 p.m., local time, **WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 2015**.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a bid bond issued by a U.S. Treasury approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount no less than ten percent (10%) of the total proposal amount. Certified or cashier's checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The Project is being financed by funds from the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within ninety (90) calendar days from the receipt of proposals. CPA reserves the right to hold the contract award for one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date of receipt of proposals.

CPA reserves the right to reject any or **all** proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding proposal rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ JOSE R. UFOIFOI
Board Chairman/Contracting Officer

Date: May 28, 2015



DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
Caller Box 10007, Gualo Rai Center, Saipan
Saipan MP 96950
TEL. NO. 664-8300 FAX NO. 664-8315



NOTICE OF APPLICATION

June 17, 2015

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE CRM OFFICES:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. Imperial International (CNMI), LLC	05/11/2015 SMS-2015-X-029	Grand Mariana Casino and	Garapan	Major Siting	Certified Complete (06/04/2015)
2. CPA	05/04/2015 TPlm-2015-X-035	Seawater Firefighting System	Tinian	Ports & Industrial APC	Approved (06/05/2015)*
3. Phoenix Marine Sports	05/26/2015 SLRm-2015-X-036	Snorkeling & Kayaking Tours	Lagoon & Reef Areas	Lagoon & Reef APC	Approved (06/01/2015)*
4. Norman Tenorio	05/27/2015 SLRm-2015-X-037	Dry Dock	Lower Base	Ports & Industrial APC	Approved (05/27/2015)*
5. Island Holiday Tour	06/02/2015 SLRm-2015-X-038	Snorkeling Tour	Lagoon & Rees Areas	Lagoon & Reef APC	Under Review
6. Ocean Tour	06/02/2015 SLRm-2015-X-039	Snorkeling Tour	Lagoon & Reef Areas	Lagoon & Reef APC	Under Review
7. Eagle Marine Sports	06/03/2015 SLRm-2015-X-040	Snorkeling Tour	Lagoon & Reef Areas	Lagoon & Reef APC	Approved (06/15/2015)
8. GPPC, Inc.	06/04/2015 SPlm-2015-X-041	Dry Dock	Lower Base	Lagoon & Reef APC	Approved (06/08/2015)*
9. Alter City Group	04/30/2015 TMS-2015-X-028	Plumeria Resort Project	Tinian	Major Siting	Certified Complete (06/09/015)*
10. Pacific Inc.	06/04/2015 SPlm-2015-X-042	Dry Dock	Lower Base	Lagoon & Reef APC	Approved (06/08/2015)*
11. D.T.C. Saipan	06/05/2015 SSm-2015-X-043	Photographic Activities	Shoreline areas	Shoreline APC	Approved (06/08/2015)*
12. Black Micro Corp	06/05/2015 SSm-2015-X-044	Soil Sampling	Puerto Rico	Shoreline APC	Approved (06/08/2015)*
13. DLNR	06/05/2015 SSm-2015-X-045	Rehabilitation of Beach Pavilions	Coral Ocean Site	Shoreline APC	Under Review
14. Office of the Major Municipality of Saipan	06/05/2015 SSm-2015-X-046	2015 Liberation Festival	Garapan, Fishing Base	Shoreline APC	Approved (06/12/2015)*
15. CUC	06/05/2015 SSm-2015-x-047	Rehabilitation Liftstation A-16	Agingan	Shoreline APC	Under Review

Require **all** permit applications to be published in a local newspaper within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. **All** permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. **All** persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APC's) and proposed amended major sittings. Public Hearings are required for **all** new major siting projects. **All** public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.

School celebrates healthy eating with meal contest



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Public School System nutritionist Kaisa Anderson samples a Dandan Middle School student's food contest entry.

Dandan Middle School led a healthy meal contest to choose a winning meal to be featured in next school year's lunch menu.

A Dandan middle school student's pork, tofu, and beans with brown rice meal will make it on their lunch menu next year

after topping 63 other meals in a healthy meal contest.

Sixth grader Wilshae Monsalud was the winner. His meal also included orange for his fruit option and yogurt for dessert.

"My class did a school project on the five major food groups in

which they created their healthy meals," said health and physical education teacher Joe Villacrusis.

"All of these students were taught the importance of having all the five major food groups (grains, vegetables, fruits,



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

DMS vice principal Reo Arriola takes notes on one entry into their school food contest competition.

protein, and dairy) based on MyPlate.gov," or the national guidelines for healthy meal portions and ingredients, he said.

"All the meals prepared by the students were healthy suggestions. They mentioned that these are foods they would like

to see served in their cafeteria," he said.

Principal Lynn Mendiola, vice principal Reo Arriola, Public School System nutritionist Kaisa Anderson, and LSG chef George Santos judged the competition meals.

Villacrusis said all four judges enjoyed the event and agreed that Monsalud's meal was the best.

Out of 63 students in Villacrusis sixth grade class, only 11 made it to the final judging. *(Dennis B. Chan)*

'Gone fishing with dad' at Hyatt Regency

As your father deserves a deluxe celebration on this day, Hyatt Regency Saipan has created special experiences for one of the most important person you love the most.

Celebrate Father's Day a tad earlier with Miyako's festive brunch offerings especially for dad.

The pre-Father's Day brunch at Miyako on June 20 begins at 10:30am. Price is at \$45 per person and \$35 per person for Club at the Hyatt members. Reservations are highly recommended. For more information, please call 234-1234 ext. 26.

On June 21, the Father's Day celebration begins at Giovanni's and Kili Cafe and Terrace as dad is welcome to a hearty selection of seafood and Certified Angus Beef for brunch buffet. The wonderful culinary team will showcase

a live carving and teppanyaki station alongside rich and delectable hot entrees such as Peruvian lomo asado, sautéed Certified Angus Beef flank strips and mahi-mahi piccata.

The Father's Day buffet brunch celebration begins at 10am. Price is at \$55 per person and \$35 for Club at the Hyatt members. The buffet includes sparkling wines and free-flowing Budweiser beer. Reservations are highly recommended. For more information, please call 234-1234 ext. 26.

After brunch, the fun and tradition will continue at the annual Father's Day Fishing Derby. This is an exciting and memorable event that is not to be missed—so be sure to remember the camera! The derby is complementary for Father Day's diners. For more information, please call 234-1234 ext. 26. *(PR)*

KagES holds promotional rites for 5th graders

Kagman Elementary School recently celebrated a major milestone with the 5th grade class holding a promotional celebration at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

The school has recently achieved a 40th percentile ranking nationwide, according to STAR data in reading and math. Which as per the Renaissance manual, "We use the 40th percentile as the default benchmark, because research experts, along with many states consider it a mean "working at grade level" or "proficient."

The school said as a turnaround school it has met or surpassed many of the goals it set several years ago. In addition, KagES also implemented the second step curriculum school-wide, which is a pro-social curriculum, that contributed to an all-time low (along with teacher



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Kagman Elementary School's 5th grade students perform a dance to "See you again" and "Nae Nae" songs in honor of parents during their promotional event at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

professionalism and the PSS progressive discipline plan [4 R's]) in office referrals for the last six years.

Out of close to 400 students, KagES had a maximum of 32

students (8 percent) referred to the office for the School Year 2014-2015. Research has proven a direct correlation to student learning and minimal disruption caused by office referrals and

has proven true at our school.

"So thank you parents, staff, and students in contributing to a successful school year. Go Marlins!" said a statement from KagES. *(PR)*

CONGRATULATIONS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Several Saipan International School seniors pose for a group shot after their graduation rites held last May 22 at the Saipan World Resort.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Vanessa Lani Gramlich graduated a year early as a junior from Marianas High School. She won the Presidential Award, is a National Honor Society member, and passed three Advanced Placement classes. She is accompanied in the photo by her proud sister Helen and parents Rick and Temary Gramlich.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Congratulations go out to Abram Jacob Repeki who graduated from Marianas High School on June 10, 2015. You've succeeded your 12 years of school now you can enjoy your way to a new journey in College. Coming out from your Dad, Mel, EJ, Marleon, and your entire family!

Business

Obama, GOP try to revive trade agenda, but hurdles await

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama and his legislative allies scrambled Monday for ways to revive his severely wounded trade agenda, although Democrats and Republicans alike said all options face serious hurdles.

Obama talked with House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, and White House Chief of Staff Denis McDonough spoke with Rep. Nancy Pelosi, the House Democratic leader whose rejection of Obama's pleas capped Friday's stunning setback delivered mainly by his own party.

But key lawmakers and aides said significant political and legislative challenges complicate the "many different options" cited Monday by House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif. House Republican leaders sought to give themselves more time, seeking a new deadline of July 30 for the legislation. The House was slated to vote on an extension on Tuesday.

The situation deeply frustrates Obama's supporters on trade, because in some ways, success seems almost within reach.

The House on Friday narrowly approved the key component of the president's trade agenda: granting him "fast track" authority to negotiate agreements that Congress can reject or rati-



AP
In this May 26, 2015 file photo, President Barack Obama speaks in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington.

legislation. Nearly all House Democrats would support the worker aid program, joined by enough Republicans for a majority, the thinking went. Then, a big majority of House Repub-

licans, and just enough Democrats, would approve the fast track portion.

But Democrats, urged on by unions and Pelosi, foiled the plan Friday by killing the aid program, known as Trade Adjustment Assistance, or TAA. Even some colleagues called the tactic cynical, and Obama had specifically asked them not to do it.

fy, but not change.

And there's reason to believe the House would approve the legislative package's other main element—renewal of an aid program for workers displaced by international trade—if it were decided on a stand-alone vote. Democrats overwhelmingly support it, and it costs so little that that numerous Republican consider it a reasonable price to get fast track.

But three legislative realities are thwarting any easy solution:

■ The Senate combined the two elements into one bill,

which it sent to the House after a bruising, lengthy battle.

■ It turned out that House Democrats opposed fast track so strenuously, they were willing to sacrifice the displaced workers' aid to scuttle the whole package.

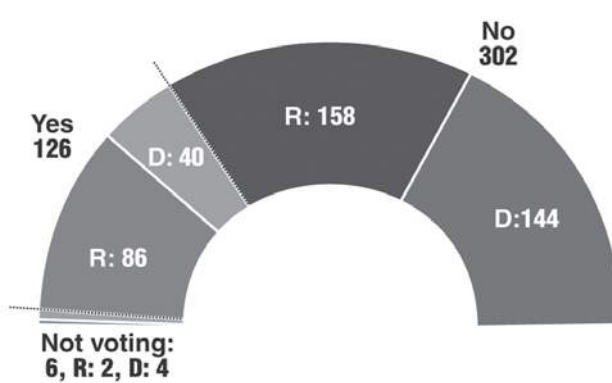
■ The administration and others are loath to start over and give the Senate another crack at dragging out, and possibly killing, the entire trade package.

The original strategy assumed a left-right combination would ratify the Senate-passed

Trade bill vote

The House of Representatives voted against a bill that would have given the president more authority in negotiating the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade deal.

House roll call on the Trade Act of 2015



Source: U.S. Congress

Graphic: Tribune News Service

Slow sales cause Honda to scrub natural gas, hybrid Civics

DETROIT (AP)—Slow sales and falling gasoline prices have prompted Honda to stop selling gas-electric hybrid and natural gas-powered versions of its Civic compact car.

The company also said that it will discontinue a plug-in rechargeable version of the mid-size Accord.

But it plans to roll out a new, more efficient version of the Accord hybrid early next year. And a new plug-in Accord will come later.

Executive Vice President John Mendel said Monday in a statement that production of the natural gas Civic already has been halted, and hybrid Civic production will end after the 2015 model year.

The average price of a gallon of regular gasoline nationwide was \$2.80 on Monday, 86 cents below a year ago.

Mendel also said the small number of natural gas refueling stations continue to be a challenge for owners. Honda sold only about 16,000 natural gas Civics since 1998. Mendel said Honda will continue to service the natural gas cars.

Through May, Honda has sold only 1,873 hybrid Civics out of a total of 129,574, according to Autodata Corp. Natural gas Civic sales for the year were not released.

Part of the reason for the slow hybrid and natural gas Civic sales is the progress that Honda and other automakers have made getting better mileage out of gas-powered vehicles. Honda plans to start selling a sleek-looking new Civic in the fall that will get a little more than 40 miles per gallon in highway driving, Mendel said in the statement.

Target selling pharmacy, clinic businesses to CVS Health

Target will sell its pharmacy and clinic businesses to CVS Health in the latest twist behind a push from big retailers to become all things to all customers.

The nation's second-largest drugstore chain will pay about \$1.9 billion to run Target's in-store health operations and expand what they offer for customers who have come to expect that they will be able to fill a prescription when they shop at Target.

Drugstores, grocers and big

retailers like Target and Wal-Mart all have been pushing into each other's turf for several years now, blurring traditional retail boundaries, as they try to attract customers who want to make fewer stops when they go shopping.

The number of stores the average consumer visits over a month has dropped 15 percent over the last five years, according to market researcher NPD Group.

"In other words, they're not

running from place to place to place like they used to," said Marshal Cohen, NPD's chief retail industry analyst. "It doesn't mean I am shopping less, it just means I am going to less stores."

In response, retailers have been adding clinics and pharmacies. Drugstores, in turn, have started stocking groceries.

All these businesses are chasing health care dollars as they watch Baby Boomers grow older and start using the health care system more and as the number

of insured people climbs due to the health care overhaul.

Target Chairman and CEO Brian Cornell said CVS Health will bring more expertise and scale to its pharmacies and clinics than the retailer could offer on its own. He said research shows that their customers "absolutely expect" to have pharmacy services available at Target locations.

"They want to see the convenience of that inside our stores," Cornell said. (AP)

Gap closing 175 namesake stores to boost brand

NEW YORK (AP)—Gap plans to close 175 of its namesake stores in North America, or 18 percent of its current total, and cut 250 jobs at its headquarters as the company tries to strengthen the struggling brand.

Gap Inc., which owns Gap, Old Navy and Banana Republic, said Monday it will close about 140 Gap stores in North America in the fiscal year that ends Jan. 31—and the remainder afterward—based on factors that include location and performance. The San Francisco company also is closing an undisclosed number of stores in Europe. And it's cutting jobs at its headquarters in

an attempt to make it faster and more decisive.

The moves are the latest attempt by the once high-flying company to improve the shaky performance at its namesake brand. The brand that used to be a go-to for generations of khaki pants wearers has suffered in more recent years as it's failed to keep up with the right design trends.

To help right the ship, Gap has shaken up its management ranks: Art Peck became CEO in February and leadership of the Gap and Banana Republic brands was changed. The company also has been working to overhaul its fashions to improve

their appeal. And it got rid of its Piperlime line.

The latest moves are aimed at making the company more nimble. Gap said the job cuts at its headquarters, in particular, are intended to make it faster and more decisive. In total, Gap said store closings and job cuts will save it around \$25 million a year. The company said it will take about \$140 million to \$160 million in charges related to the moves.

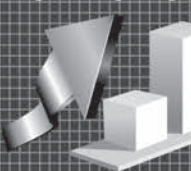
The stores that will close, which won't include Gap Factory or Gap Outlet locations, have about \$300 million in annual sales out of Gap's total of more than \$16 billion. The com-

pany said it will continue opening stores and will have around 800 North American locations when the closings are complete. Gap had 963 stores in North America as of May 2.

The company declined to say how many people work in those stores. Gap said it will help displaced employees find positions at nearby locations.

Gap doesn't expect the moves to affect its other brands, most of which have been performing better than Gap stores. In fact, Gap Global President Jeff Kirwan told The Associated Press that the company will apply lessons it's learned from its Old Navy brand, which has been a bright spot, to Gap.

STOCK PORTFOLIO



LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
17,791.17	2,084.43	5,029.97
-107.67	-9.68	-21.13
-0.60%	-0.46%	-0.42%

EXCHANGE RATES

Australian Dollar	1.29	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7522	Philippine Peso	45.111
British Pound	0.6408	Indian Rupee	64.1405	Singapore Dollar	1.3469
Canadian Dollar	1.232	Indonesian Rupiah	13335.5	South Korean Won	1117.905
Chinese Yuan	6.2093	Japanese Yen	123.59	Swiss Franc	0.9305
Euro	0.8874	Malaysian Ringgit	3.75	Taiwan Dollar	30.9055
		New Zealand Dollar	1.4319	Thailand Baht	33.7225

Nation

Prison worker charged with aiding escapees appears in court

DANNEMORA, N.Y. (AP)—

A woman charged with helping two murderers escape from a maximum-security prison by providing them hacksaw blades, chisels and other tools made another court appearance Monday as a manhunt in far northern New York marked its 10th day.

The local schools reopened with added police patrols and more than 800 law enforcement officers continued their search for Richard Matt and David Sweat, who escaped from the Clinton Correctional Facility near the Canadian border June 6. The main road leading into the community remained closed.

Prosecutors say Joyce Mitchell, a prison tailoring shop instructor who had befriended the inmates, had agreed to be the getaway driver but backed out because she still loved her husband and felt guilty for participating.

Mitchell, 51, made her second court appearance in Plattsburgh wearing a striped prison jumpsuit and a bulletproof vest. She waived a preliminary hearing, and the case headed to a county court.

"Basically, when it was go-

AP
Joyce Mitchell stands with her lawyer Steven Johnston, appearing before Judge Mark Rogers in Plattsburgh City Court, New York, for a hearing Monday, June 15, 2015.



time and it was the actual day of the event, I do think she got cold feet and realized, 'What am I doing?'" Clinton County District Attorney Andrew Wy-

lie said Sunday. "Reality struck. She realized that, really, the grass wasn't greener on the other side."

Wylie said there was no

evidence the men had a Plan B once Mitchell backed out, and no vehicles have been reported stolen in the area. That has led searchers to believe the

men are still near the prison in Dannemora.

Sweat, 35, was serving a life sentence without parole for killing a sheriff's deputy. Matt, 48, was doing 25 years to life for the 1997 kidnap, torture and hacksaw dismemberment of his

former boss.

Mitchell was charged Friday with also supplying a punch and a screwdriver to the two inmates. Her lawyer entered a not guilty plea on her behalf. She has been suspended without pay from her \$57,000-a-year job overseeing inmates who sew clothes and learn to repair sewing machines at the prison.

Brian Barrett, a criminal defense lawyer in Lake Placid not involved in the case, said Mitchell could face liability if Matt and Sweat commit new crimes and she's found responsible for helping them escape.

"She could have accomplice liability for that," Barrett said. "Certainly she would be civilly liable."

Authorities say the convicts used power tools to cut through the back of their adjacent cells, broke through a brick wall, then cut into a steam pipe and slithered through it, finally emerging outside the prison walls through a manhole. Wylie says they apparently used tools stored by prison contractors, taking care to return them to their toolboxes after each night's work.

Workers have welded shut three manholes, including the one from which the convicts climbed out.

Head of Spokane NAACP quits amid furor over racial identity

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP)—Rachel Dolezal resigned as president of the NAACP's Spokane chapter Monday just days after her parents said she is a white woman posing as black—a dizzyingly swift fall for an activist credited with injecting remarkable new energy into the civil rights organization.

The furor touched off fierce debate around the country over racial identity and divided the NAACP itself.

"In the eye of this current storm, I can see that a separation of family and organizational outcomes is in the best interest of the NAACP," Dolezal, who was elected the chapter's presi-

dent last fall, wrote on the group's Facebook page. "Please know I will never stop fighting for human rights."

Dolezal, a 37-year-old woman with a light brown complexion and dark curly hair, graduated from historically black Howard University, taught African studies at a local university and was married to a black man. For years, she publicly described herself as black and complained repeatedly of being the victim of racial hatred in the heavily white region.

The uproar that led to her



Dolezal

resignation began last week after Dolezal's parents told the news media their daughter is white with a trace of Native American heritage. They produced photos of her as girl with fair skin and straight blond hair.

Her mother, Ruthanne Dolezal of Troy, Montana, told reporters she has had no contact with her daughter in several years. She said Rachel began to "disguise herself" as black after her parents adopted four black children more than a decade ago.

Rachel Dolezal initially dismissed the controversy, saying

it arose from a legal dispute that has divided the family, and repeatedly sidestepped questions about her race.

"That question is not as easy as it seems," she said.

Late last week, the national NAACP stood by her, saying "one's racial identity is not a qualifying criteria or disqualifying standard for NAACP leadership."

But Dolezal came under increasing pressure from local chapter members to resign.

Kitara Johnson, an NAACP member in Spokane who has been calling on Dolezal to step down, welcomed the resignation as "the best thing that can happen right now."

Beachgoers lose limbs in shallow-water shark attacks

OAK ISLAND, N.C. (AP)—Beachgoers cautiously returned to the ocean Monday after two young people lost limbs in separate, life-threatening shark attacks in the same town in North Carolina.

A 12-year-old girl lost her left arm below the elbow and suffered a leg injury Sunday afternoon; then about an hour and 20 minutes later and 2 miles away, a shark bit off the left arm above the elbow of a 16-year-old boy.

Both had been swimming about 20 yards offshore, in waist-deep water.

A shark expert says the best response after one of these extremely rare attacks is to temporarily close beaches that lack lifeguards. Local officials ac-

knowledgeed Monday that they didn't make a concerted effort to warn people up and down the town's beaches until after the second attack.

Most beachgoers near the spot alongside a fishing pier where the first victim was attacked were staying in very shallow water or on the sand Monday. Holly Helmig, 39, of Raleigh watched her 6-year-old son bobbing on a boogie board in shin-deep water instead of splashing in the waves farther out. Her 5-year-old daughter Zoe shoveled sand in a bucket next to her.

"I feel bad for the shark but I think he's hiding somewhere in the ocean," Zoe said.

Deputies saw a 7-foot shark

Sunday in an area between the two places where the attacks happened, Sheriff John Ingram said. Sharks of that size are common along the coast, Oak Island Town Manager Tim Holloman said, and authorities are not trying to hunt one down. But safety officials scouted for sharks from boats and a helicopter Monday. One was spotted Monday morning, Holloman said.

Recordings of 911 calls released Monday include several people calling each attack in, some sounding nearly hysterical. The victims—a girl from Asheboro and a boy from Colorado Springs, Colorado—were bleeding heavily, and other beachgoers applied makeshift tourniquets.



Source: AP
Graphic: TNS

Minnesota archbishop felled by 2-year scandal over abuse

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP)—Archbishop John Nienstedt's leadership of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis unraveled over a painful two years.

A church archivist accused him of leaving abusive clergy in parishes and church jobs without warning parents or police. A task force he appointed to investigate confirmed the archdiocese had been negligent. Around the same time, he faced allegations of his own inappropriate sexual conduct, but he didn't reveal specifics.

Through it all, Nienstedt rejected calls for his resignation. Then, less than two weeks ago, a prosecutor brought child-endangerment charges against the archdiocese, and on Monday, he stepped down.

"I leave with a clear conscience knowing that my team and I have put in place solid protocols to ensure the protection of minors and vulnerable adults," Nienstedt wrote in the announcement.

But the Rev. Michael Tegeder, a Minneapolis priest and frequent Nienstedt critic, said the archbishop "came into this diocese without really any empathy" and "undermined so many of the good things that were going on here."

"He had to go," Tegeder said.

When the crisis erupted, Nienstedt had his defenders, but he couldn't bank on widespread support in the archdiocese. Appointed in 2008 by Pope Benedict XVI, Nienstedt took a much harder line than his predecessor, Archbishop Harry Flynn, on upholding Catholic orthodoxy.

As bishop of nearby New Ulm, Nienstedt had chided a priest who worshipped with Lutherans after a tornado destroyed a Catholic church. In his diocesan newspaper, Nienstedt warned parishioners not to attend the movie "Brokeback Mountain" because it showed sex between two men.

As Minneapolis archbishop in 2010, he made a high-profile drive for a constitutional amendment that would define marriage as the union of a man and a woman by appearing in a DVD that was mailed to several hundred thousand Minnesota Catholic families. Many local Catholics and clergy felt alienated by his style and emphasis.

"He was out of step with the archdiocese. He did not respect the people, did not respect his priests, did not engage in dialogue," said Charles Reid, a professor in canon law at the University of St. Thomas. "He was an autocrat."

Asia

PH Muslim rebels lay down arms to reinforce peace deal

SULTAN KUDARAT, Philippines (AP)—The largest Muslim rebel group in the Philippines handed over dozens of assault weapons Tuesday in a symbolic gesture to reinforce a peace pact stalled by a public outcry over the recent killings of dozens of anti-terror police commandos in a fierce battle with insurgents.

President Benigno Aquino III and Al Haj Murad Ebrahim, the leader of the 11,000-strong Moro Islamic Liberation Front, witnessed the handover of 75 assault weapons, including mortar and rocket launchers, by the guerrillas near a southern rebel stronghold, along with the identification of a first batch of 145 guerrillas, who agreed to return to normal life with promises of government support.

The autonomy deal, signed by the government and the rebels last year after yearslong talks brokered by Malaysia, was expected to be one of the major legacies of Aquino, a reformist leader whose six-year term ends next year. But the involvement of the Moro rebels in fierce clashes that killed 44 police

commandos, who hunted and killed a top Southeast Asian terror suspect on Jan. 25, ignited public criticisms of the Moro insurgent group and the peace agreement.

The passage of a law in the Philippine congress that would authorize the creation of a more powerful Muslim autonomous region in the country's south has been delayed. It is uncertain if the guerrillas would accept a watered-down version of the autonomy bill drafted by government and rebel representatives.

The uncertainty has led to fears that impatient guerrillas may return to violence. A few hundred rebels broke off from the Moro Islamic Liberation Front about five years ago when the main insurgent group pursued peace talks with Aquino's government.

Murad said while Tuesday's event is about statistics for some people—145 guerrillas and 75 firearms—"this is something deeply personal to us."

"As I look at the faces of each of our 145 brothers here this morning, I see 145 stories of struggle, of pain, of hopelessness and even of death, yet I

also see 145 stories of hope and faith that indeed peace is near and that all the sacrifices have been worth it," he said.

Aquino defended the arms

turnover against criticisms by those who he said wanted the peace process stalled.

"We are not talking of just one or a couple or a dozen fire-

arms. These are high-powered firearms, modern and have not aged. These arms can deal and have dealt extreme suffering," Aquino said.

The guns will be turned over to an independent decommissioning body and will be stored in a mutually designated depot in the south.



Filipino Muslim boys hold a slogan in front of police during a rally at the Philippine Senate to coincide with the hearing on the passage of the Bangsamoro Basic Law (BBL) in Manila, Philippines on Wednesday, June 3, 2015. AP

ASIAN BRIEFS

North Korean soldier crosses border to defect to South

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Seoul said Monday that a teenage North Korean soldier defected to the South by crossing the heavily guarded border between the two Koreas. An official at South Korea's defense ministry said that the serviceman, believed to be in his late teens, walked across the border about 8 a.m. through the central eastern front. The ministry official requested anonymity citing office rules. No gunfire was exchanged. The serviceman told the ministry that he was beaten regularly and had grievances about the North Korean regime, according to the official. It is not common for North Koreans to defect to the South via the land border dividing the Koreas. In 2012, a North Korean soldier walked to south of barbed-wire fences without getting caught by guards. Most of the about 25,000 defectors now living in South Korea reached here by traveling to China.

China to simplify entry rules for Taiwan visitors

BEIJING (AP)—China will make it easier for Taiwanese to visit, state media reported Monday, in the latest appeal to voters ahead of crucial presidential elections on the island in January. Rule changes will remove the need for Taiwanese visitors to apply for entry permits, the reports said, citing comments by top government

adviser Yu Zhengsheng at a weekend China-Taiwan forum. Travel passes issued by Beijing to Taiwanese will be converted from passport-like documents to a basic computer readable card, the reports said. China regards Taiwan as a breakaway province and doesn't recognize passports issued by the self-governing island democracy, which split from the mainland amid civil war in 1949.

Police: Missing Malaysian tanker likely hijacked by pirates

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—A Malaysian oil tanker that went missing last week carrying fuel worth 21 million ringgit (\$5.6 million) and 22 crew members is believed to have been hijacked by pirates, marine police said Monday. MT *Orkim Harmony*, loaded with 7.5 million liters (2 million gallons) of gasoline belonging to national oil company Petronas, was headed to northern Kuantan when communications with it were lost late Thursday near Singapore. It was the second tanker believed to have been hijacked this month in the same area. Ahmad Puzi Abdul Kahar, deputy director-general of the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency, said there was a "high probability" that the tanker was taken by pirates, although no ransom demands have been received. The crew consists of 16 Malaysians, five Indonesians and a Myanmar national.

China says South China Sea island building to finish soon

BEIJING (AP)—China will complete land reclamation projects on its disputed South China Sea territorial claims as planned within "upcoming days," the Foreign Ministry said Tuesday.

However, in a sign that developments were far from over, a statement posted to the ministry's website said China would follow up by building infrastructure to carry out functions ranging from maritime search and rescue to environmental conservation and scientific research.

"It is learned from relevant Chinese competent depart-

ments that, as planned, the land reclamation project of China's construction on some stationed islands and reefs of the Nansha Islands will be completed in the upcoming days," the statement said, using the Chinese term for the Spratly islands, which lie at the heart of the South China Sea territorial dispute.

Apart from satisfying defense goals, it said the main purpose of such projects was civilian in nature and not targeted at any third parties. It said the projects fell within the scope of Chinese sovereignty and were "lawful,

reasonable and justified," while causing no harm to the marine environment.

The statement said the projects "do not affect the freedom of navigation and overflight enjoyed by all countries in accordance with international law in the South China Sea."

That will likely be scrutinized by the U.S. military following an incident last month during which a U.S. Navy plane flying near one of the reclaimed islands was repeatedly challenged by the Chinese military and told to leave the area.

The reclamation work has sharply increased tensions with the United States, and Vietnam and other countries in the region which fear China will use the artificial islands as military bases and to assert control over navigation in the South China Sea.

According to the U.S., Beijing's building program on reefs and atolls now totals more than 2,000 acres (800 hectares).

Most recently, U.S. officials said that China had placed two motorized artillery vehicles on one of its reclamation sites, but they have now been removed.

Quake-hit Nepal reopens damaged heritage sites for tourists

BHAKTAPUR, Nepal (AP)—Nepal on Monday reopened most of the cultural heritage sites that were damaged in a pair of devastating earthquakes, hoping to lure back foreign tourists.

The April 25 and May 12 quakes killed more than 8,700 people and damaged hundreds of thousands of buildings in Nepal, including old temples, palaces and other historical structures that are popular with tourists.

Six of the seven UNESCO World Heritage sites closed after the quakes were reopened

Monday, Tourism Minister Kripasur Sherpa said.

"We are urging people to come to Nepal for holiday to help Nepal rebuild," Sherpa said in Bhaktapur, a city outside of Kathmandu filled with ancient temples, and which is among the reopened heritage sites.

The sites were closed due to the damage from the quakes, but also over concerns about the safety of tourists.

Bhesh Narayan Dahal, chief of Nepal's Department of Archaeology, said that measures

have been taken to ensure that tourists are safe, and that there are plans to provide safety helmets for visitors in some places.

Some 741 heritage structures were damaged in the quakes, and it will take at least \$18 million to rebuild and restore them, Dahal said.

Nepal is hosting an international donors' meeting next week in Kathmandu, the capital, to seek money to help rebuild the Himalayan country following the quakes.

About 800,000 foreign tour-

ists visit Nepal every year and the government is worried that a fear of earthquakes will stop many from visiting.

UNESCO, the United Nations' cultural heritage organization, had raised concerns last week about the reopening of the heritage sites, urging tourists to be extra cautious and reconsider visiting them.

The agency also asked the government to restrict tourists' access to locations where structures had collapsed and that were still considered unsafe.

World

Kurdish fighters seize large parts of IS border stronghold

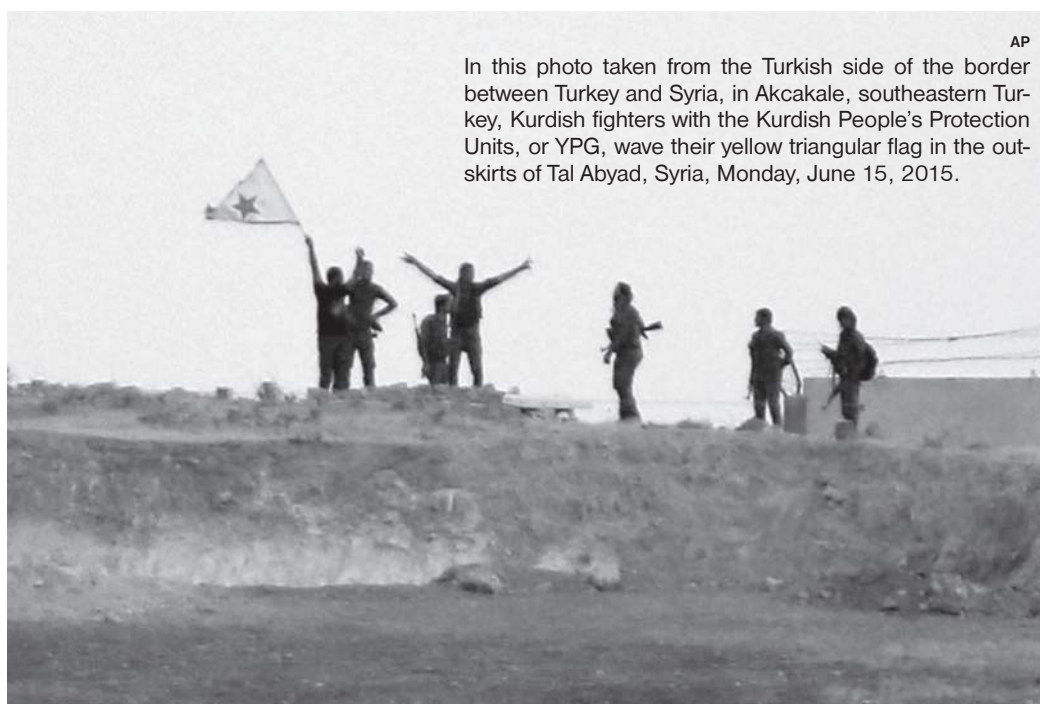
BEIRUT (AP)—U.S.-backed Kurdish fighters captured large sections of a strategic town on the Syria-Turkish border on Monday, dealing the biggest setback yet to the Islamic State group, which lost a key supply line for their nearby self-proclaimed capital.

The seizure of Tal Abyad threatened to flare tensions between Kurds and ethnic Arabs, who accused the Kurdish militia of deliberately displacing thousands of people from the town, which has a mixed population.

Redur Khalil, a spokesman for the main Kurdish fighting force, known as the YPG, said Kurdish fighters entered from the east and were advancing west toward the town's center amid fierce clashes with pockets of IS resistance.

"We expect to have full control over Tal Abyad within a few hours," he told The Associated Press by telephone. A few hours later, the YPG announced on its Facebook page that it had liberated the town.

The Britain-based Syrian Ob-



In this photo taken from the Turkish side of the border between Turkey and Syria, in Akcakale, southeastern Turkey, Kurdish fighters with the Kurdish People's Protection Units, or YPG, wave their yellow triangular flag in the outskirts of Tal Abyad, Syria, Monday, June 15, 2015.

servatory for Human Rights confirmed the Kurdish fighters had "almost full control" of Tal Abyad by Monday evening, and had taken command of the border crossing with Turkey. It said some 40 Islamic State militants were targeted by U.S.-led airstrikes as they tried to flee south.

An AP photographer in Akcakale, on the Turkish side of the border, saw several dozen YPG fighters waving their yellow triangular flag and flashing victory signs. Earlier, several dozen Kurdish gunmen were seen running up a hill, moving west.

A few people on the Syrian

side of the border were seen raising the green, white and red flag of the Free Syrian Army before being apprehended by Turkish security after they broke a hole in the border fence. A contingent of Free Syrian Army fighters is battling alongside the Kurds in an effective alliance against the Islamic State

Militants slowly losing ground

Although Islamic State militants are slowly losing territory, the White House has decided to send several hundred more troops to Iraq to expand training of Iraqi forces aiming to help Iraq retake the provincial capital, Ramadi, which the militants captured last month.



group called "Burkan al-Furat," or Volcano of the Euphrates.

The loss of Tal Abyad, some 50 miles (80 kilometers) north of Raqqa, the capital of the Islamic State group's self-

declared caliphate, is the extremists' biggest setback since Kurdish fighters took control of the Kurdish border town of Kobani near Turkey, after fighting IS for months.

Pope's stance leaks; calls for urgent action on environment

VATICAN CITY (AP)—A draft copy of Pope Francis' eagerly awaited encyclical on the environment calls for urgent action to protect the Earth and fight global warming, which the pope says is "mostly" due to human activity and the burning of fossil fuels.

The Vatican spokesman, the Rev. Federico Lombardi, said the document that was leaked to the Italian newsweekly L'Espresso and published on its website Monday was not the final version and that the official encyclical would still be released as scheduled on Thursday.

The L'Espresso draft, which was published in galley form in Italian, makes many of the same points that Francis and his advisers have been making in the months-long rollout of the document.



Pope Francis delivers his message on the occasion of an audience with participants of Rome's diocese convention in St. Peter's Square, at the Vatican, Sunday, June 14, 2015.

In the draft, Francis lays out both the scientific and the moral reasons for protecting God's creation, noting that the poor are already suffering the most from air pollution and toxic

dumping and will continue to bear the brunt of rising sea levels and extreme weather conditions. The draft says population growth isn't to blame for ecological problems but rather the

consumerist, wasteful behavior of the rich.

Francis backs up his comments with science showing the impact on the planet of the continual loss of biodiversity in Amazonian rainforests, the melting of Arctic glaciers, the overfishing of the seas and the pollution of the world's water supply.

Francis has said he wanted the encyclical to be read by everyone—not just Catholics—and he notes in the introduction that the document is now part of the formal teaching "magisterium" of the Catholic Church. That could be read as a warning of sorts to climate skeptics, including many Catholics in the U.S. who have suggested they simply will ignore the encyclical since the pope's views on the environment clash with their doubts about climate change.

Mexico drops certification requirement for US-schooled kids

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Mexico on Monday enacted a measure meant to help hundreds of thousands of young migrants who have returned from the United States, dropping a requirement that they provide government-certified, translated copies of foreign school records in order to study in Mexico.

Mexico had required records be certified with a seal known as an apostille and be translated by a certified translator in Mexico.

The costly and cumbersome process had discouraged hundreds of thousands of returning migrant children from going

to school in Mexico, or meant they could only audit courses without official recognition. Hundreds of thousands of children have returned to Mexico, mainly from the United States, after their parents were deported or chose to return.

The Education Department published changes to the rules on Monday, saying its goal was to make education more accessible. The department also dropped the certified-translation requirements.

"The main problem that migrants face when they try to get school services, is the lack of doc-

uments, and the requirement that they get the apostille," the Education Department said in a press statement. The apostille is a seal issued by state or federal agencies to authenticate government documents, including school records.

The seal costs only about \$8 per document, but getting schools to express-mail documents to apostille offices in the U.S., and then on to recipients in Mexico, from outside the country, and then getting them translated, can run into hundreds of dollars.

Berenice Valdez, the public policy coordinator for the non-

government? Institute of Women in Migration, told of one returning migrant in the central state of Puebla who earns less than \$100 per month and has three children who need to authenticate their U.S. school documents. The woman couldn't even afford to travel to the state capital to start the process.

"It is a very big problem that prevents access to education for many children," Valdez said. The institute estimates that about 307,000 foreign-born children were studying in Mexican schools, almost 290,000 of whom were born in the United States.

WORLD BRIEFS

Al-Qaida leader not listed among dead from US Libya strike

CAIRO (AP)—Libyan militants have released a list of names of those they say were killed in a U.S. airstrike over the weekend that does not include the raid's main target, al-Qaida-linked commander Mokhtar Belmokhtar. The al-Qaida-linked Ansar al-Shariah on Tuesday released a list of seven names of fighters and residents it said were killed in the "crusader American strike" in the eastern town of Ajdabiya. A second statement from an umbrella group for militias called the Shura Council of Ajdabiya and its Surroundings also did not include Belmokhtar among the dead. Neither group directly denied Belmokhtar was killed. U.S. officials initially said they believed they hit their target, but later said assessments were still underway. A Libyan official said tests were needed to identify the dead, who numbered at least 17.

Europe's comet lander makes 2nd contact after waking up

BERLIN (AP)—The Philae spacecraft has been in touch with Earth from a speeding comet for the second time since waking up a few days ago, mission control said Monday, and scientists hope to improve communications with the lander by shifting the trajectory of its mother ship. Philae in November became the first spacecraft ever to settle on a comet when it touched down on icy 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko, but it managed to send data to Earth only for about 60 hours before running out of power. Scientists were elated this weekend when, as the comet approached the sun, Philae's solar panels absorbed enough light to recharge its main battery and wake the lander up. Philae broke its silence on Saturday by sending a signal back to Earth via Rosetta, its mother spacecraft, which is between 200 and 240 kilometers (124 and 150 miles) away from the comet.

Minister: Suicide bombers kill 23 in attacks on Chad capital

N'DJAMENA, Chad (AP)—Suicide bombers on motorcycles simultaneously attacked two buildings including the national police academy in Chad's capital on Monday, killing at least 23 people and wounding more than 100 others, witnesses said. It was the first assault of its kind since Islamic militants threatened the country earlier this year. There was no immediate claim of responsibility but suspicion quickly fell on Boko Haram, the Islamic militant group based in neighboring Nigeria that already has attacked Chadian villages along the lake dividing the two countries. Chad has been a major military ally with Nigeria in the fight against the insurgent group. Boko Haram's leader has publicly threatened the Chadian president with retaliation. Information Minister Hassan Sylla Bakari called Monday's violence "an appalling and barbaric attack."

Good Housekeeping

M I A M I — Somewhere in the southern reaches of Miami-Dade County, the only fern of its kind known to grow wild in the continental U.S. survives under a thicket of Brazilian pepper.

Botanists have long worried that the fern—discovered in 2006 near Florida City in a location they prefer not to disclose—could be just one hurricane, plant poacher or misfired shot of herbicide away from disappearing forever. So two years ago a team led by Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden launched a rescue mission, ultimately more drudging than gripping, to collect and propagate spores no bigger than the period at the end of this sentence.

Then they waited.

“I had a heck of a time getting spores,” Fairchild botanist Jennifer Possley said this month when she displayed the fruits of the mission: a wispy, Caribbean maiden hair fern, about six inches tall and one of about 20 now growing at the garden.

Despite the success, the maiden hair could be the poster plant for a fern crisis playing out across Miami-Dade.

With 124 natives ferns, Florida has more species than anywhere else in the U.S. outside Hawaii or Puerto Rico, Possley said. Of those, 48, grow in Miami-Dade County. More than half, 26, are imperiled or in danger of going extinct. Fourteen have already disappeared.

If the surviving ferns grew in large, protected preserves like Everglades National Park or the Big Cypress National Preserve, Possley said she would worry less. But seven are found only in a patchwork of small preserves managed by Miami-Dade’s Environmentally Endangered Lands program—the

Last fern standing: Botanic garden helps rescue disappearing plants

By JENNY STALETOVICH
MIAMI HERALD



Field biologist Jennifer Possley holds the Caribbean maiden fern, a rare fern in danger of disappearing, at the Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden nursery in Coral Gables, Fla., on Friday, June 5, 2015.

last fragments of hardwood hammocks and pine rockland now surrounded by highways, commercial districts and busy neighborhoods.

“This is where I come in and start to sweat,” Possley said.

Native ferns, before the introduction of invasive ornamentals like sword fern, were once ubiquitous in South Florida, inspir-

ing an avid following among admirers who flocked to fairy-like grottoes, braving thorny vines and spiders, in search of rare species. Tours were led into fern-lined sinkholes.

“Fern enthusiasts like me consider it a small price to pay,” Possley wrote for an article about conservation efforts.

But, like dozens of other rare

plants and creatures, wild ferns began fading from the landscape. Heavy development has shrunk habitat. Poaching by collectors nearly wiped out some species.

With their slow incubation, ferns aren’t built for fast rebounds. One plant can produce billions of spores—Possley says they’re “everywhere on earth,” floating through the

air—but ferns can be picky about where they grow.

Consider the brown-hair comb fern. First spotted at the Deering Estate in 1962, the rare fern was nearly wiped out about three years ago when the South Florida Water Management District began restoring historic water flow to Biscayne Bay as part of Everglades restoration

work. Alerted to the threat because she tracks rare plants for the county, Possley and other Fairchild botanists collected spores just before the population crashed.

Then began the arduous work of growing the ferns. Mike Freedman, Fairchild’s horticulturist, spent months tending to the spores, constructing a special plexiglass chamber to improve their chances of surviving. Six weeks after germination, the ferns remained tiny, revealing heart-shaped leaves only under a microscope. At three months, they measure about an inch-tall, looking a little like parsley. At about a year, the ferns are finally two to three inches tall and large enough to be potted and shipped to a greenhouse where Possley and other botanists have been growing about 300 plants representing a dozen rare species.

Within a year of another endangered fern—the grid-scale maiden fern—dying at the Deering Estate, Fairchild was able to reintroduce a new crop of greenhouse ferns to repopulate the area. The brownhair fern managed to hold on, Possley said.

Beyond poaching and loss of habitat, another threat increasingly puts ferns at risk: rising sea levels linked to climate change that could alter the specific habitat some ferns require. Fairchild is now working to identify county land where rare ferns would have grown historically so they can be replanted. The garden is also sending seeds to the nation’s seed bank, the National Center for Genetic Resources Preservation in Colorado where seeds and animal tissue important to U.S. agriculture are stored.

Possley would love to see the “little fairy gardens” that once drew tourists replanted. But she recognizes the challenges.

“Now most of them are buried underneath Miami,” she said.

Living Smart: Before you dive into a saltwater pool for your home

By STACI GIORDULLO
ANGIE'S LIST

As saltwater pool systems become more prevalent—industry experts say about half of all new pool installations feature saltwater systems—homeowners are curious about their advantages, disadvantages and, most important, how much they cost.

Whether you’re building a new pool (which averages \$50,000 for a concrete, shotcrete or gunite pool) or converting a standard chlorinated pool, it will cost between \$1,500 and \$2,500 for the saltwater chlorination system, depending on the size of the pool.

What many homeowners don’t realize is a saltwater pool still contains chlorinated water.

“You pour salt into your pool; the salt goes through the generator, which produces chlorine,”

says Chuck Burris, owner of Classic Pools Lubbock in Lubbock, Tex. “The cell—or generator—emits a charge that frees the chlorine from the salt molecule. It then reverts back to salt to be used again in the process.”

That process eliminates the chlorine smell associated with chemically chlorinated pools.

What are the benefits of a saltwater pool?

In addition to getting rid of the chlorine smell, salt water is gentler on your skin.

“The biggest advantage is health and maintenance,” says Damian Maroney, owner of Hydotech Pools in Naples, Fla. “Chlorine tablets contain harmful impurities, which some people react negatively to. Salt can alleviate this, as the pool owner can eliminate the use of chlorine tablets. There’s less of a need to



On average, it costs between \$1,500 and \$2,500 to convert a pool to a saltwater system.

shock the pool (which can cause dangerous chemical conditions) and less bleaching of bathing suits from super-high chlorine levels.”

Michael Steininger, owner

of Everything 4 Pools & Solar in Orange City, Fla., says with a saltwater pool, his clients can save between \$300 and \$400 a year on chlorine.

What maintenance is required for a saltwater pool?

Kash Marzetti, owner of Marzetti Pools in Columbus, Ohio, says a 20,000-gallon pool might need 11 to 12 bags of salt after the installation of a new saltwater system.

“It costs around \$6 a bag, and you won’t have to put any more salt in for two years,” he says, conceding that salt might need to be added more frequently when pools are used year-round. Look for a pool salt that’s at least 99.4 percent pure and doesn’t have rust inhibitor or other additives.

And while saltwater pools may require less maintenance, there’s no such thing as a maintenance-free pool. “You do need to inspect the cell once a month to see if it’s scaled up,” Steininger says. “If it is, you’ll have to clean it in order to preserve the integrity of the cell.”

To clean the cell, turn off the power, remove it from its casing and soak it in white vinegar for a few hours. Steininger says cells typically need to be replaced every five to seven years, at a cost of \$400 to \$650.

“The efficacy of a saltwater system in fighting bacteria relies on proper parameters of pH and alkalinity,” says Dave Cox, owner of Tamarack Pools in Carlsbad, Calif. “Weekly maintenance is important.” Of course, highly rated pool service companies are available to help with the regular maintenance.

Saltwater pool owners can add a muriatic acid, if necessary, to maintain the proper pH balance between 7.4 and 7.6.

Also, keep in mind that salt is a corrosive substance. When building a saltwater pool, avoid using soft stones (like limestone) as coping or decking materials, as the salt will erode the stone.

Life & Style

Sony's 'Uncharted 4,' 'Last Guardian' get attention at E3

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Nathan Drake is back in action.

Sony capped off its game-filled Electronic Entertainment Expo briefing Monday night with a bullet-riddled demonstration of "Uncharted 4: A Thief's End," the forthcoming action-adventure installment featuring the charismatic treasure hunter.

The preview showed Drake and mentor Victor "Sully" Sullivan engaging in a firefight on foot before evading enemies through city streets in a jeep.

Sony kept most of the focus of its trade show presentation on games coming to the PlayStation 4 console, demonstrating on stage such titles as the sci-fi exploration game "No Man's Sky" and the impressionistic platformer "The Last Guardian," a title that was originally teased six years ago at E3 2009.

"I could not be happier standing here today," said Shuhei Yoshida, president of Sony Computer Entertainment Worldwide Studios. "You don't know how long I have waited for this moment."

Other games promoted Monday included a new rendition of "Hitman,"



FILE - This June 13, 2013 file photo shows, the Sony booth during the Electronic Entertainment Expo, in Los Angeles.

military shooter sequel "Call of Duty: Black Ops 3," quirky first-person exploration game "Firewatch," cave-

woman-versus-robots romp "Horizon: Zero Dawn" and a high-definition re-

make of "Final Fantasy VII." Yu Suzuki, the director of the be-

loved "Shenmue" series, came on stage to petition gamers to crowd-fund a "Shenmue 3" nearly 15 years after open-world "Shenmue 2" was released. Project Morpheus, Sony's virtual

reality headset that works in concert with the PS4, was only briefly mentioned during the presentation. The gaming and electronics giant previously announced the VR system would be out in spring 2016 but hasn't specified a price.

Andrew House, president and CEO of Sony Computer Entertainment, said a multiplayer arena battle game for Morpheus called "Rigs" would be available for attendees to try this week on the floor of the E3 show at the Los Angeles Convention Center.

"It's e-sports, Morpheus-style," House said.

Beyond games, Sony declared it was expanding its PlayStation Vue online TV service to Los Angeles and San Francisco on Monday night, broadening availability from when it launched in March in New York, Chicago and Philadelphia. The cable alternative, starting at \$50 a month, includes local TV stations affiliated with CBS, NBC, Fox, and pay TV channels such as AMC, Bravo, CNN and Comedy Central. The service is available on PS4 and PlayStation 3 consoles.

Bethesda kicks off E3 with 'Doom,' 'Fallout 4'



This photo provided by Bethesda Softworks shows a screenshot of a scene for the video game, "Fallout 4."

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Bethesda jump started the Electronic Entertainment Expo by showing off the latest installments of "Fallout" and "Doom."

The video game publisher launched this year's annual video game extravaganza Sunday night with its first-ever E3 press conference at the Dolby Theatre.

Bethesda Softworks spent most of its 90-minute briefing showcasing scenes from both a new edition of the hellish first-person shooter "Doom" and the post-apocalyptic role-playing saga "Fallout 4."

"I think we can all agree that

tonight starts a week with E3 that is the world's best week of entertainment ever," said Bethesda Game Studios director Todd Howard.

Howard went on to detail how the character creation, settlement construction and combat systems work in "Fallout 4" amid the game's virtual rendition of Boston plagued by a nuclear attack. He announced "Fallout 4" would be released Nov. 10.

In addition to "Fallout 4," Howard said a mobile simulator game called "Fallout Shelter" would debut immediately following the conference, and a companion app

that mimics the game's Pip-Boy doodad on smartphones would come out alongside "Fallout 4" this fall.

"Yes, it's a second-screen experience," said Howard. "Usually, I find second-screen experiences are generally just stupid gimmicks, but as far as stupid gimmicks go, it's the best (expletive) one."

The briefing began with id Software executive producer Marty Stratton unearthing a new "Doom," which is set to debut in spring 2016. The demon-blasting action focused on shotgun shooting and skull cracking on a pair of levels: one set on Mars, the other

within Hell. Stratton also outlined plans for players to be able to edit and share their own "Doom" levels.

"We can't wait to see all the amazing things you come up with next," Stratton told the crowd.

Bethesda also unveiled a follow-up to the stealthy title "Dishonored," the strategy card game "The Elder Scrolls: Legends," as well as new content for the multiplayer battle game "Battlecry" and the online role-playing game "The Elder Scrolls Online."

E3 runs through Thursday at the Los Angeles Convention Center.

Electronic Arts hypes 'Star Wars' games at E3

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Force is with Electronic Arts.

The video game publisher heavily focused on its forthcoming "Star Wars" games during a briefing Monday at the Electronic Entertainment Expo.

EA showed off an extended look at the upcoming multiplayer game "Star Wars: Battlefront." The PlayStation 4 footage showcased a land-air skirmish between Empire and Republic forces on the icy planet Hoth, culminating with Luke Skywalker and Darth Vader locking light sabers.

"Today, by far the best place to truly lose yourself and interact with 'Star Wars' is video games," senior producer Sigurline Ingvarsdottir told the crowd inside the Shrine Auditorium.

EA also announced an expansion for the online role-playing game "Star Wars: The Old Republic" dubbed "Knights of



Samantha Ryan, SVP and Group GM, EA Mobile presents upcoming "Star Wars" themed games during the Electronic Entertainment Expo at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles, Monday, June 15, 2015.

the Fallen Empire" and a new mobile collectable card game called "Star Wars: Galaxy of Heroes."

Other titles teased included the cartoony shooter sequel "Plants vs. Zombies: Garden Warfare 2," the free-running romp "Mirror's Edge: Catalyst," a photorealistic rendition of racer "Need for Speed" and a

new platformer about a creature made of yarn called "Unravel."

Besides "Star Wars," EA spent a considerable chunk of its 90-minute presentation on sports installments "NHL 16," "Madden NFL 16," "NBA Live 16" and "FIFA 16." Soccer great Pele appeared on stage, and EA premiered a "FIFA 16" trailer narrated by him.

Ubisoft's 'Ghost Recon,' 'For Honor' unveiled at E3

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Ubisoft debuted a trio of new games at the Electronic Entertainment Expo.

The video game publisher unveiled the superhero-themed follow-up "South Park: The Fractured But Whole," the original combat game "For Honor" and open-world "Tom Clancy's Ghost Recon: Wildlands" on Monday during its E3 briefing.

"South Park" creators Trey Parker and Matt Stone were on hand to debut "The Fractured But Whole," a sequel to the role-playing game "South Park: The Stick of Truth."

"At the end of 'Stick of Truth,' we learned how to make video games," Parker joked.

The multiplayer-focused brawler "For Honor" will pit versions of knights, samurais and Vikings against each other on battlefields.

"Ghost Recon: Wildlands" transports the espionage fran-



Singer Jason Derulo performs during the "Just Dance 2016" game segment at Ubisoft's E3 2015 Conference at the Orpheum Theatre on Monday, June 15, 2015, in Los Angeles.

chise to a virtual rendition of Bolivia. "Wildlands" marks the first time the "Ghost Recon" series has been set in an open world.

Ubisoft also brought star power to its Orpheum Theatre stage presentation with Angela Bassett unveiled as the new chief in "Tom Clancy's Rain-

bow Six: Siege" and Jason Derulo performing "Want To Want Me." The pop star's music will appear in the choreography game "Just Dance 2016."

Other titles teased included the London-set "Assassin's Creed: Syndicate" and multiplayer action title "Tom Clancy's The Division."

REVIEW: James Taylor solid, at times sublime on new album

By JEFF KAROUB
ASSOCIATED PRESS

In more than four decades, James Taylor has seen fire and rain, showered the people with love and steamrolled his way into millions of hearts.

That would be enough for many, but JT has more musical work to do.

Taylor's new album, "Before This World," arrives 13 years after his last studio album of original songs. And it does nothing to threaten his legacy.

The 67-year-old has retained his abilities to craft and deliver a

song. His simple, elegant acoustic fretwork and supple tenor sound much as they did in his 1970s hit-making heyday. The new collection sounds familiar without being a retread.

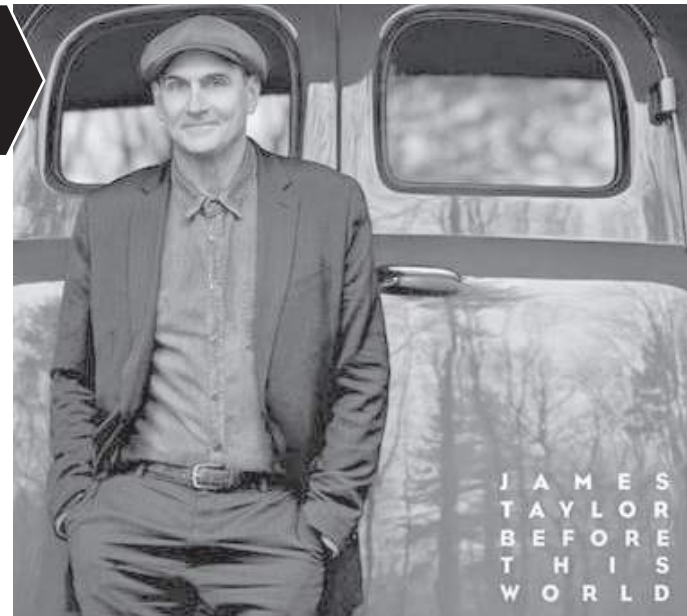
"Montana" evokes "Sweet Baby James" in meter, mood and melody. And "SnowTime" will certainly raise comparisons to "Mexico," though this one's set in Toronto and he sings about decamping to the United States' neighbor to the north instead of the south. Was there an obscure, equal-time clause tucked into NAFTA that required Taylor to pen an ode to Canada after Mexico?

Not everything's a grand slam: "Angels of Fenway," a ballad for fans of his beloved Boston team, is by no means a strikeout but is unabashedly homer-ish and the nostalgia gets a bit thick in spots. Of course, that sentiment wouldn't be shared by New Englanders, who are prone to preface Yankees with "damn" or something worse.

Two songs elevate the album from good to great: "Before This World" and "Far Afghanistan." The first is among the finest of what Taylor calls his "agnostic hymns." This stately piece features standout sup-

port from cellist Yo-Yo Ma and Sting. The former weaves soulful lines and the latter handles the harmonies beautifully (and at least one-third less Sting-y). The second is a well-told and played tale that doesn't so much criticize war as it questions the assumptions we make about the faraway lands we invade.

Overall, "Before This World"



AP
This CD cover image released by Concord Music Group shows "Before This World," the latest release by James Taylor.

Q&A Angela Bassett talks playing boss in 'Rainbow Six' game

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Angela Bassett is taking on the mantle of "Six," the codename for the leader of the elite counter-terrorism group depicted in the video game series "Tom Clancy's Rainbow Six."

Bassett was unveiled Monday during a Ubisoft news conference at E3 as the latest "Six" in the upcoming "Rainbow Six: Siege" installment of the publisher's long-running shooter series. The character has always been portrayed as male in past "Rainbow Six" games, as well as in Clancy's original novel.

"We've known for quite some time we've been looking to cast a female actress for 'Six' this time around," said "Rainbow Six" animation director Scott Mitchell. "Angela Bassett was one of our top choices from the beginning. We were looking for someone who could deliver a strong, commanding performance."

In the game, players will portray one of several international operators under the command of Bassett's character, akin to "M" in the James Bond franchise. It's a formidable position that's not entirely foreign to the veteran actress. On film, Bassett has played the head of the Secret Service in "Olympus Has



AP
This undated photo provided by Ubisoft shows actress Angela Bassett during a motion capture session for her character, in the video game, "Rainbow Six: Siege." The actress and filmmaker is taking on the mantle of "Six," the codename for the leader of the elite counter-terrorism group depicted in "Tom Clancy's Rainbow Six."

Fallen," a CIA chief in "This Means War" and an ambassador in "Survivor."

However, the technical requirements for capturing Bassett's virtual performance for "Rainbow Six: Siege," were all new to the "American Horror Story" star. She donned a motion-capture suit and performed within a high-tech sphere comprising hundreds of cameras fo-

cused on her facial experiences.

"It was a layering technique, which is very different from film, but it was very, very interesting," Bassett said.

Ahead of her E3 debut, Bassett spoke with The Associated Press about her part in the game, which is set for release Oct. 13:

AP: Why were you interested in this role?

Bassett: I don't have much experience with video games, especially not at this high level. Whenever I get an opportunity to go in another direction, I do. I'm very aware of media and women in the media and the way we come across. I thought this would be a very strong look, as a woman and as a black woman. For myself, it's a way to keep current. I just wanted to have an opportunity to be part of something like that.

AP: Were you aware of the many criticisms how women and African-Americans are portrayed in games?

Bassett: I wasn't at first. I have a cousin who is very much into this world. He told me this would be a big, big, big deal. I said, "Really?" There have been opportunities in film where the part was a male, and they've changed it for me, and I've been able to bring it to life. I've

always liked that. This was another opportunity to do that. To hear that in this world, women are not usually in this role, that was very exciting news to me.

AP: How did you interpret the role of the deputy director of Team Rainbow?

Bassett: I've often played that sort of character—the boss, the head, the one in charge. I've done it in various movies. In that respect, it was familiar to me, but the world of games, how they put it all together, that was a totally different and exciting to me. I was like a kid on the first day of school. I had lots of questions.

AP: What did you think when you saw your character? The resemblance is uncanny.

Bassett: I was amazed. It looks dead on. I knew exactly each step I went through, so it's interesting to see that's what they came up with. I hope movies don't go this way. I like interacting with people.

AP: What's your personal experience with games? You said you aren't that familiar, but did you at least play "Pac-Man" back in the day?

Bassett: I did! I did play "Pac-Man," which I guess is like Tic-Tac-Toe compared to "Rainbow Six."

Flavor Flav fireworks case fizzles in Las Vegas

LAS VEGAS (AP)—An illegal fireworks case against Flavor Flav has fizzled, and he won't be prosecuted for a Fourth of July bash he held last year. But the former rapper and reality TV star still faces misdemeanor driving under the influence, speeding, marijuana and open container charges stemming from an arrest last month.

An aide to Clark County District Attorney Steve Wolf-

son cited a lack of evidence Monday for the decision to drop the fireworks case against the 56-year-old entertainer whose legal name is William Jonathan Drayton Jr.

Drayton's lawyer, Kristina Wildeveld, says her client agreed to tone down the way he celebrates Independence Day, and he probably won't have fireworks this year.

Drayton is due in court Monday on the driving case following his May 21 arrest.



AP
In this April 18, 2013 file photo, Flavor Flav of Public Enemy performs during the band's induction at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony at the Nokia Theatre in Los Angeles.

Free financial advice could save you a bundle

DEAR ABBY: Making wise decisions about what to do with your money can be tough. Insurance policies, mortgages and investment plans come with so much terminology and fine print. The phone calls, email messages and mail offers for products and services are endless, and some are downright dishonest. It seems as if there's a scammer—or an opportunity to make the wrong financial decision—around every corner.

To help your readers sort out the offers for products and financial services that come their way, USA.gov, the federal government's official website, has created a free Financial Self-Defense Kit. It contains a dozen publications that explain how to make solid investment, shopping and credit decisions. And it's also filled with advice on protecting your consumer rights and recognizing and avoiding scams—especially those aimed at seniors.

Abby, thank you for sharing this empowering kit with your readers. Armed with the information, they'll be better prepared and feel more confident facing financial choices.

SARAH CRANE, ACTING DIRECTOR,
FEDERAL CITIZEN INFORMATION CENTER

DEAR SARAH: Frankly, I should be thanking YOU for giving me the opportunity to share this valuable information

with my readers. I thought the kit you produced last year was wonderful, but this one is even better.

Readers, I was shocked to read not long ago in USA Today that almost one-third of American workers have less than \$1,000 in savings and investments for retirement. The reasons for this vary, but among them are that people haven't estimated how much money they will need once they stop working until they are near retirement, when it's too late.

This year's kit will be valuable for any of you with an eye to the future. It contains information to help you choose a financial adviser you can trust, and determine the difference between a solid investment and a fraudulent offer that could cost you your life savings.

Among the other "goodies" inside are: Money Smarts for Older Adults, Fighting (Investment) Fraud 101, Five Steps for Making Financial Decisions, Know Your Financial Adviser, The Guide to Long-Term Care Insurance, A Guide for Seniors: Protect Yourself Against Investment Fraud, Considering a Reverse Mortgage?, Understand Your Credit Score, and Your Rights When a Debt Collector Calls. (Can you guess the No. 1 consumer complaint received by the government last year? Debt collection!)

You will also find the newest edition of the Consumer Action

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



Handbook, which no household should be without. (Inside is a sample complaint letter, which can be VERY effective in any number of instances when dealing with corporations, and company contact information.)

All this information is free of charge, but supplies are limited. To order, go to USA.gov/dearabby, call 888-878-3256 weekdays 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern time, or write: Financial Self Defense, Pueblo, CO 81009. Don't procrastinate, because these kits are going to go quickly.

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Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



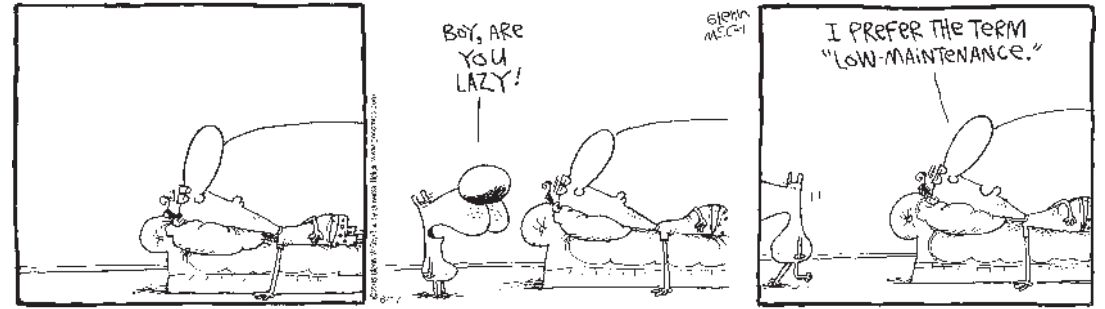
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

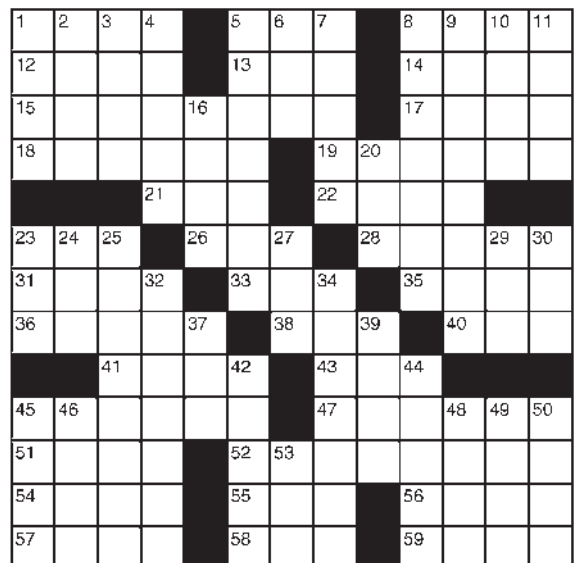
By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Catchall abbr.
- 5 Felon's flight
- 8 Basilica section
- 12 Initial chip
- 13 Actress Larter
- 14 Converse
- 15 Rogue
- 17 Undecided
- 18 Piercing
- 19 Anatomical rupture
- 21 Copper head?
- 22 Genealogy chart
- 23 Small dog, for short
- 26 Bonfire residue
- 28 John who played TV's Gomez Addams
- 31 Use a rotary phone
- 33 Round Table address
- 35 Benefit
- 36 Extraterrestrial
- 38 Encourtered
- 40 Obtain
- 41 Manicure site
- 43 23-Across' place, often
- 45 Pamper
- 47 See 34-Down
- 51 Shrek is one
- 52 Potpourri
- 54 Winged
- 55 Rhyming honor
- 56 Addition-ally
- 57 Stamina (Sl.)
- 58 Head movement
- 59 Not so much
- DOWN**
- 1 Church service
- 2 Part of the foot?
- 3 Celebrity
- 4 "As You Like It" role
- 5 Anarchic
- 6 Chicken-king link
- 7 Has potential
- 8 Ingenue, e.g.
- 9 Repeated attempts to contact
- 10 Ganges garment
- 11 Sicilian volcano
- 16 Goya's "Duchess of —"
- 20 Historic time
- 23 Kissing in a crowd, e.g.
- 24 Lubricate
- 25 Principal street
- 27 That guy
- 29 Mamie's man
- 30 Trawler need
- 32 Guides
- 34 Calm
- 37 Zero
- 39 London gallery
- 42 Lousy car
- 44 Bicycle part
- 45 Shade of black
- 46 Look lasciviously
- 48 Competent
- 49 Back talk
- 50 lds' counterparts
- 53 Altar affirmative

Solution time: 24 mins.



Yesterday's answer 6-17



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Venus Williams, 35; Will Forte, 45; Greg Kinnear, 52; Barry Manilow, 72.

Happy Birthday: Emotions will get in the way if you let them. Stand tall and make an effort to take care of business and move forward. Letting someone hold you back, put you down or control your life will not help you reach your goals. Stand tall and do whatever it takes to stay upbeat. If you are happy, you will attract positive people. Your numbers are 6, 10, 18, 25, 29, 31, 44.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Carry on with your personal plans. Don't worry if someone decides to do something differently. Make arrangements to get started on a self-improvement project that includes someone you love and want to share the experience with. **

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Ask questions if you want answers. No one will voluntarily give you information without a little prodding. Investigate your family history or the historic buildings in your neighborhood. Keep your expenses low in order to save for a vacation. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Your popularity will promote opposition and jealousy. Take an interest in others, even your enemies, and you will eventually win acceptance and support from those reluctant to see things your way. Love is featured and romance is encouraged. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Valuable information will be offered. Embrace a challenge and you'll be able to show off

your abilities and skills. An unusual hobby will lead to a moneymaking opportunity. Check out cultural events going on in your community. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Step up and be responsible. The help you offer will impress someone you've wanted to get to know better or collaborate with for some time. Look for alternatives if you are faced with a roadblock. You can outmaneuver the competition. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Watch and wait for the right moment to make your move. Timing is crucial when you are dealing with people who are underhanded or trying to derail your plans. Keep your plans a secret and make your move when no one is looking. ****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Follow your heart and refuse to let anyone interfere with your plans. Emotional outbursts can be expected if you are too revealing or trusting. A short trip will help you find a quicker route to reaching your goal. **

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Strive to get your ideas heard, but don't be too quick to cut a deal. Time is on your side, and the ideas you come up with will help you turn a little project into something big and bountiful. *****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Take charge and get things done. Once you've taken care of business, you will feel at ease about enjoying the company of friends or taking time out for personal pampering. Don't let anyone make you feel guilty. ***

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Look at the big picture. Refuse to let anything bother you. You have time to assess and strategize, so don't feel obliged to make a snap decision unless you are sure of the outcome. Sensitive issues are best dealt with diplomatically. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You are sitting in a better position than you realize. Chat about your ideas and plans and take progressive action to turn them into a reality. Your gung-ho attitude will impress others and win their support. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Experiment with your ideas and you will discover a way to make your dream come true. Don't let what others say or do get to you. Stand on your own two feet and do your thing. Success will be the best payback. *****

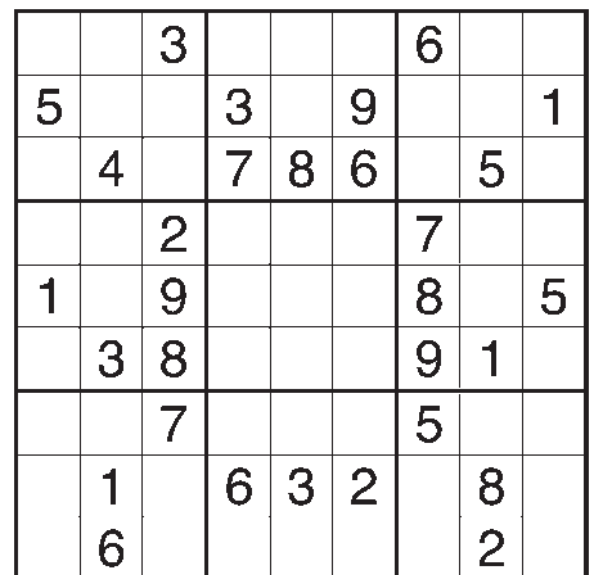
Birthday Baby: You are intelligent, expressive and original. You are emotional and caring.

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

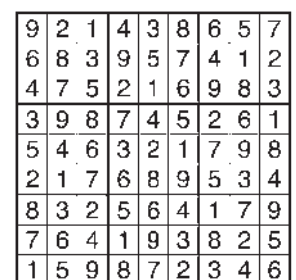


Difficulty Level ★★

6/17

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★★

6/17

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

THAT'S MINT!

Solution: 6 letters



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Apple, Aromatic, Asthma, Beverage, Blue, Chopped, Colonel, Coughs, Curly, Desserts, Dried, Drink, Facial, Garden, Ginger, Green, Herb, Jelly, Juice, Kentucky, Lamiaceae, Lobe, Mask, Medicine, Mentha, Menthol, Oil, Palate, Peppermint, Plant, Purple, Sage, Salad, Seeds, Skin Care, Spearmint, Steam, Stems, Sticky, Stimulant, Taste, Teas, Vapor, Welt, White

Yesterday's Answer: Departure

Treasury 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contain 130 puzzles.)

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1 Cook (Korean cuisine): \$6.05/hr. At least 2 years' experience in Korean cuisine required. Email resume to kl@hanmisaipan.com.

1 Housekeeping Cleaner: At least 3 years' experience as housekeeping cleaner in hotel environment required.

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Therefore, our company is inviting interested U.S. Citizens, U.S. Green Card holders and FAS work authorized citizens to apply for employment with us.

Our job categories include but are not limited to:

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Warriors expect Cavs' punch in Game 6

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Stephen Curry received treatment for dehydration following Game 5 of the NBA Finals, a little worn out after carrying Golden State to the brink of its first championship in 40 years.

The Warriors will need him at his best Tuesday, knowing what's coming from LeBron James in Cleveland.

"They're going to come out and give it their best punch," Warriors guard Klay Thompson said.

The Warriors will have two chances to win the series after taking a 3-2 lead with their 104-91 victory Sunday. They would host Game 7, if necessary, on Friday.

"We don't want to come back here," Thompson said. "As much as we'd love to win it in front of our fans, we really want to finish it in Cleveland."

James had 40 points, 14 rebounds and 11 assists Sunday, his second triple-double in the series, and was asked how he copes with such a performance not resulting in victory.

"Well, you cope with it by understanding it's just one game and looking at the opportunity we have on Tuesday to force a Game 7," he said. "Obviously, for myself, I want to do whatever it takes to help our team win, and I haven't been able to do that the last two. So hopefully I can do a better job coming in on Tuesday. We all as a unit can do a better job, and we'll be fine."

Some things from Game 5 to watch when the series returns to Cleveland:

MVP! MVP! After Curry's dismal Game 2 and rough start to Game 3, he has rediscovered his shot. His 37-point performance Sunday including seven 3-pointers, the second time in the series he's fallen one shy of Ray Allen's NBA Finals record.

"I just think sooner or later, Steph's going to get going,"



AP
Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry, left, speaks next to forward Draymond Green after Game 5 of basketball's NBA Finals against the Cleveland Cavaliers in Oakland, Calif., Sunday, June 14, 2015. The Warriors won, 104-91.

Warriors coach Steve Kerr said. "He had a tough first couple of games. He got going at the end of Game 3 in the fourth quarter, and that's all it takes. Steph makes a couple shots, he feels like he's got it rolling, and he's been great ever since."

The Warriors, with their superior depth, have largely dominated the fourth quarters of the last three games, outscoring the Cavaliers by 12, 15 and seven points. Whether the problem has been fatigue or poor execution, the Cavaliers know they have to clean that up in Cleveland.

"We gave up 31 points in the fourth," James said of Sunday's game. "Some of them were free throws, but a lot of them were

them just breaking us down. So we've got to do a better job of that."

James is averaging 36.6 points, 12.4 rebounds and 8.8 assists in the series with two triple-doubles. He's one shy of tying the record of four 40-point games in one finals, set by Jerry West in 1969 and Michael Jordan in 1993, and has been so good that the Warriors don't even pretend they might stop him.

"He's been there for years now, so you're not going to shut him down. But if you continue to make him work hard for each and every bucket that he gets, it takes a toll on his body," said Golden State's Draymond

Green, the runner-up for Defensive Player of the Year.

"If he gets 40, he gets 40. Like I said, that's why he's LeBron James. You can go throw a triple-team at him, and he'll probably still get 40, but as long as you make him work for those 40, then you've got to be satisfied with what you do."

Though Cleveland coach David Blatt has said he is against the Hack-a-Shaq strategy of intentionally fouling away from the ball, Andre Iguodala wasn't surprised when the Cavaliers used it against him down the stretch.

Iguodala was just 2 for 11 from the free-throw line in Game 5 and a woeful 6 for 18 (33.3 per-

cent) in the finals, so he figures he may see more of the strategy the remainder of the series.

"So got a day tomorrow when we get to Cleveland to prepare for it, and it's a challenge," Iguodala said. "Just like any other challenge, you want to meet it head on and you want to be ready for it."

Blackhawks shut out Lightning for another Stanley Cup title

CHICAGO (AP)—Jonathan Toews raised the Stanley Cup over his head and soaked in the cheers from the adoring crowd. Patrick Kane pumped his right arm in celebration. Johnny Oduya pulled a Chicago flag with a Blackhawks logo over his broad shoulders.

Party on, Chicago. It's a Windy City celebration 77 years in the making.

Duncan Keith scored in the second period and directed a dominant defense that shut down Tampa Bay's high-scoring attack, and the Blackhawks beat the Lightning 2-0 in Game 6 on Monday night for their third NHL title in the past six seasons.

Kane had a goal and an assist, helping the Blackhawks clinch the Cup on home ice for the first time since 1938. Corey Crawford, who was pulled from Chicago's first-round series against Nashville, had 25 saves in his fifth career playoff shutout.

NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman tagged the Blackhawks as a dynasty, and the frenzied crowd of 22,424 at the United Center agreed wholeheartedly.

"We won it for each other, for the city," Toews said. "In so many ways, winning a championship like this in our home

city, I think it really transcends the sport. Everyone wants to be a part of it. It's amazing."

Keith was a unanimous selection for the Conn Smythe Trophy for playoff MVP after he finished with 21 points while playing more than 715 minutes in a grueling postseason.

"It feels so great. You want to keep being a part of these things," Keith said. "You don't get these awards without being on great teams with great players and like I said, I'm just proud to be a part of this group of guys who cares so much and do whatever it takes."

It was an appropriate conclusion to a series full of near misses and close calls that had fans in Chicago and Tampa Bay on the edge of their seats for almost two weeks. It was only the second final to begin with five one-goal games, and no team enjoyed a two-goal advantage until Kane buried a perfect pass from Brad Richards at 14:46 of the third.

It was Kane's first goal of the final, and it touched off a wild celebration by the delirious crowd, which broke out more chants of "We want the Cup! We want the Cup!"

"Just wanted to play my best

game and control the puck as much as possible and try to step up for my team," Kane said.

Ben Bishop kept the Lightning in the game with 30 saves, fighting through a torn groin muscle that kept him out of Game 4. Led by Bishop and big defenseman Victor Hedman, the Lightning allowed just 13 goals in the series, but it wasn't enough against the unflappable Blackhawks.

"Our goal scoring dried up. It wasn't for lack of trying," coach Jon Cooper said. "The chances, posts, missed nets, open nets that hit sticks, you need those to go in for you to keep going. Ultimately they dried up for us."

Tampa Bay star Steven Stamkos finished the playoffs with an eight-game scoring drought that likely will chase him into the offseason. He rung the inside of the crossbar at 7:50 of the first and was stoned by Crawford on a breakaway 58 seconds into the middle period.

"It's so frustrating especially for me not being able to get the job done these last couple games," Stamkos said. "That's something you're going to remember for a long time."

Hornets trade Stephenson to Clippers for Hawes, Barnes



CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)—The Lance Stephenson experiment is over in Charlotte.

The Hornets gave up on the struggling guard Monday, trading him to the Los Angeles Clippers in exchange for center Spencer Hawes and forward Matt Barnes.

The Hornets gave Stephenson a three-year, \$27 million contract last summer figuring he would bring some needed playoff experience, but he never produced as the team hoped he would.

"Sometimes when you make a trade or a free agent signing it just doesn't work out for whatever reason," general manager Rich Cho said of Stephenson in a conference call Monday night with reporters. "He never fit in great. He is very capable of

playing a lot better than he did last year but for whatever reason it wasn't a good fit. Sometimes you don't know that until a player actually comes to your team. For whatever reason, he didn't gel."

The Hornets felt Stephenson was on his way to becoming a star when he averaged 13.8 points, 7.2 rebounds and 4.6 assists while starting 78 games two years ago for an Indiana Pacers team that won 56 games and reached the Eastern Conference finals.

It was evident early on that Stephenson wasn't a good fit in Charlotte.

He played in 61 games and started only 25 for the Hornets last season eventually falling out of the rotation completely.

"I think that was a shock to his system," Cho said.

Stephenson never could get on track in Charlotte. His

17.1 percent 3-point shooting ranked as the worst in NBA history and he averaged 8.2 points, 4.5 rebounds and 3.9 assists in 25.8 minutes. He also missed 19 games due to injury and was out of the rotation completely late in the season.

Stephenson wound up taking fewer years and less money to sign in Charlotte after the Pacers made him a five-year, \$44 million contract offer. He has two years left on his contract but only one is guaranteed, so the Clippers will be off the hook if it doesn't work out next season.

The deal was also a chance for the Clippers to unload Hawes' contract.

He has three years left on a four-year, \$23 million deal he signed last summer with the Clippers. Hawes didn't play in half of the team's playoff games this season.



Mets rally in 11th, end Jays' run at 11



Jays catcher Dioner Navarro, left, waits for the throw as New York Mets Lucas Duda (21) slides in to score on Wilmer Flores's 11th-inning, game-winning, walk-off single in a baseball game against the Toronto Blue Jays in New York, Monday, June 15, 2015. AP



NEW YORK (AP)—Wilmer Flores singled to cap a two-out, two-run rally in the 11th inning and the New York Mets ended Toronto's team record-tying 11-game winning streak, beating the Blue Jays 4-3 on Monday night.

The Blue Jays trailed 2-1 in the ninth before Jose Bautista tied it with his second home run of the game, connecting against Jeurys Familia.

Toronto took the lead in the 11th on Dioner Navarro's sacrifice fly off Hansel Robles (1-1), who earned his first big league win. The Mets then came back for their fourth win in five games.

With Ruben Tejada on first and one out, Michael Cuddyer hit a potential game-ending double-play grounder to second baseman Danny Valencia. Tejada smartly slowed up and Valencia tagged him, but too late to throw onto first.

Lucas Duda followed by slicing a single off Brett Cecil (1-3) to shallow left field and Cuddyer hustled all the way home.

Duda took second on the throw, Liam Hendricks relieved and Flores lined the first pitch up the middle.

Marlins 2, Yankees 1

In Miami, Alex Rodriguez pinch-hit and flied out to end the game in his homecoming, and Miami beat New York.

Rodriguez drew a big ovation when he batted for Stephen Drew with a runner at first, but he lofted a fly to right field and remained five hits shy of 3,000. Rodriguez was back in his hometown but didn't start because there was no DH for the interleague game.

Cardinals 3, Twins 2

In St. Louis, Yadier Molina homered and John Lackey worked eight strong innings for St. Louis, which won its

fourth in a row with a victory over Minnesota.

Mark Reynolds connected three pitches ahead of Molina in the fourth, giving the Cardinals back-to-back homers.

Randal Grichuk tripled, singled and scored for St. Louis, which is 42-21 overall and 25-7 at home -- both major league bests. The Cardinals have won 15 of 20.

Rangers 4, Dodgers 1

In Arlington, Yovani Gallardo pitched seven scoreless innings, Rougned Odor had three hits with a two-run single in his return to the majors and Texas beat Los Angeles.

Gallardo (6-6) struck out four and walked three while allowing four hits. The right-hander has won all three of his decisions over his last five starts.

Odor was recalled from Triple-A Round Rock earlier Monday when outfielder Delino DeShields (left hamstring) was put on the 15-day disabled list with a strained left hamstring.

Rays 6, Nationals 1

In St. Petersburg, Erasmo Ramirez pitched six scoreless innings and Tampa Bay beat Washington.

Ramirez (6-2) won for the sixth time in his last seven starts following a winless stretch of 25 games that included 15 starts.

Tampa Bay won for the 12th time in 16 games. The Rays have held opponents to two or fewer runs in 32 of 65 games.

Tampa Bay slugger Evan Longoria left with a bruised left wrist after being hit by a Taylor Hill pitch in the fifth. X-rays were negative.

Royals 8, Brewers 5

In Milwaukee, Lorenzo Cain hit a two-run homer, and normally lights-out reliever Greg Holland struggled in the ninth before Kansas City held

off Milwaukee.

The Royals won in manager Ned Yost's first regular season game back in Milwaukee since being fired by the Brewers late in the 2008 campaign.

But the victory was more difficult than expected after the Royals entered the bottom of the ninth with an 8-2 lead.

Astros 6, Rockies 3

In Houston, George Springer homered twice and made two nifty catches in right field, Colby Rasmus hit a three-run homer and Houston beat Colorado.

Rasmus gave the Astros a 4-0 lead with his shot in the first inning and Springer hit solo home runs in the second and seventh.

Dallas Keuchel (8-2) retired the first 15 Colorado batters. He wound up allowing four hits and left after an RBI double by Nick Hundley pulled the Rockies within 5-3 with two outs in the seventh.

Tigers 6, Reds 0

In Detroit, Anibal Sanchez was outstanding for a second straight start, throwing a two-hit shutout to lift Detroit Tigers to a victory over Cincinnati.

Sanchez (5-7) struck out seven without a walk, and he did not allow a baserunner after the fourth inning. The right-hander did not get off to a good start this season, but his past two outings have been a major step in the right direction. He held the Chicago Cubs scoreless for 7 2/3 innings last Tuesday.

Pirates 11, White Sox 0

In Pittsburgh, Francisco Liriano allowed two singles in eight dominant innings and Pittsburgh ran its winning streak to five with a romp over Chicago.

Liriano (4-5) struck out 12 and walked one as Pittsburgh put together its second straight shutout and fourth in its last five games,

dropping the team's ERA to 2.79, the second-best mark in the majors behind St. Louis.

Josh Harrison and Starling Marte each had four of Pittsburgh's season-high 18 hits. Marte, Jung Ho Kang and Francisco Cervelli all drove in two runs apiece as the Pirates posted their most lopsided win of the year.

Braves 4, Red Sox 2

In Boston, Williams Perez pitched six shutout innings and Atlanta sent Boston to its seventh straight loss.

Just two days after picking up his first career save in an emergency relief appearance, Perez (3-0) allowed five hits and two walks, striking out two. He has made six major league starts and allowed one run or none in five of them.

Jason Grilli pitched the ninth for his 17th save. He gave up a long flyout to David Ortiz before Pablo Sandoval hit his second double of the game with two outs. Mike Napoli reached on an error, and Mookie Betts singled in a run—his third hit of the game—to make it 4-2.

Orioles 4, Phillies 0

In Baltimore, Wei-Yin Chen pitched eight innings of four-hit ball, Matt Wieters hit a three-run homer and Baltimore beat skidding Philadelphia.

Chen (3-4) struck out nine and walked one to help the Orioles win for the ninth time in 11 games. The eight innings tied a career high and was the longest stint by an Orioles starter this month.

Zach Britton got the final three outs to seal the last-place Phillies' seventh straight defeat. Philadelphia has been blanked in three of its last four games.

The Phillies have lost 11 in a row on the road and are a major-league worst 7-27 in away games. The loss—their 17th in the last 20 games overall—dropped them a season-high 21 games under .500 (22-43).

SIDEBAR

San Diego Padres fire manager Bud Black

SAN DIEGO (AP)—Bud Black understood full well the expectations for San Diego to win now with a remade, star-studded roster - and with a new front office, too.

His leash was a short one trying to get a new-look team to come together in a hurry.

In his ninth year managing the Padres, Black was fired Monday with San Diego sitting in third place in the loaded NL West at 32-33. The Padres never reached the playoffs during Black's tenure after he took over when Bruce Bochy departed to manage the San Francisco Giants in 2007.

General manager A.J. Preller said he made the decision after a couple of weeks of thought. He told the players he still believes in them, and didn't put all the blame on Black.

"It wasn't one magic thing. I made the decision last night and I slept on it," Preller said, noting he didn't expect Black to be managing San Diego in 2016. "At the end of the day this was the direction we wanted to go. I've evaluated him overall for eight months when I was looking at everything. I've seen inconsistencies, ups and downs. This team is not bottoming out or playing poorly. Just too much inconsistency. We have not played to the level we are capable of."

Preller said he would interview candidates in the next two days to become interim manager for the remainder of the season. Former Padres outfielder and current bench coach Dave Roberts was set to manage San Diego as it hosted the Athletics for a two-game series at Petco Park starting Monday night before going to Oakland for two games.

Black inherited an entire new outfield during the club's offseason overhaul, one Matt Kemp called the best outfield in baseball.

"We were all shocked. I'm really surprised at the timing," Kemp said. "There should be a lot of disappointment in the clubhouse with the way we played."

All three outfielders came in trades during Preller's winter frenzy. All three within 48 hours: Kemp in a deal with the reigning NL West champion Dodgers, 2013 AL Rookie of the Year Wil Myers from the Rays and Justin Upton swapped by Atlanta.

Kemp has struggled, and Myers on Monday was placed on the 15-day disabled list for the second time this season. Upton began the week batting .286 with 13 home runs and 41 RBIs.

"I called Buddy. I know Buddy well, we're close," Bochy said in San Francisco. "I hated to hear that."

Preller also traded for All-Star catcher Derek Norris in a deal with Oakland then punctuated his productive winter by bringing in free agent pitcher James Shields on a \$75 million, four-year deal.

"It's not something we are trying to hide from—it is a distraction," Norris said. "Hopefully when we go on the field our concentration goes from a distraction to taking a four-game set."

During spring training, Black would sometimes begin the day with the phrase, "no trades, no transactions," to note the club was quiet on the transaction front.

"I was excited," Black said during spring training, referring to watching Preller make big moves. "We've still got to catch two teams, the World Series champions and the Dodgers, who won 94 games."

Black, 57, has a 649-713 managerial record after pitching parts of 15 major league seasons. He was named 2010 National League manager of the year after leading the Padres to 90-72 record, the most wins by San Diego since a franchise-record 98 in 1998. But the Padres lost the division title on the final day of the season when they lost at San Francisco, and the Giants went on to capture the World Series.

The Padres haven't had a winning season since then and last year finished 18 games behind Los Angeles in the NL West. Black was in the final year of his contract.

China advances with 2-2 draw against New Zealand

WINNIPEG, Manitoba (AP)—Wang Shanshan scored on a perfectly timed header and China benefited from a questionable called penalty to earn a 2-2 draw in the Women's World Cup against New Zealand on Monday.

With the draw, China advances to the knockout stage as the second team from Group A.

New Zealand (0-2-1) went up 1-0 on a goal by Rebekah Ashley Stott in the 28th minute, but China tied the game on a penalty kick by Wang Lisi. The pen-

alty came after New Zealand's Betsy Hassett was called for a hand ball in the penalty box, though replays showed the ball hit her chest and head.

China (1-1-1) went ahead 2-1 on Shanshan's goal in the 60th minute, with New Zealand tying the game five minutes later on a goal by Hannah Wilkinson.

Meanwhile, victorious Germany and Norway also advanced to the last 16.

Favorites Germany beat Thailand 4-0 to progress as Group B leaders ahead of Nor-

way, who secured their berth by beating Ivory Coast 3-1.

Canada were held 1-1 by the Netherlands but it was enough to top Group A ahead of China, who were held 2-2 in their do-or-die clash against New Zealand.

The four join champions Japan and Brazil, the 2007 runners-up, who are already through to the knockout rounds with a game to spare.

Germany came up against



stiff resistance from the 29th-ranked Asians in Winnipeg, before Melanie Leupolz broke through after 24 minutes.

And two quick-fire headers from second-half substitute Lena Petermann on 56 and 58 minutes got the world's top ranked team into their stride.

The damage could have been worse but for solid goalkeeping from Thailand's Waraporn Boonsing before Sara Daebritz

netted a fourth for the 2003 and 2007 winners on 73 minutes.

"It wasn't our best match

but it gives us a bit more self confidence," said Germany's Leupolz.

Titans oust top seed Route 33 in Thursday 8-ball league

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The Abyss Titans pulled off a stunning 9-6 upset against the top seeded Route 33 Alamo Car Rental in their playoff match in the Budweiser-Saipan Billiards Association Open 8-Ball Thursday League last week.

The Titans were the fourth ranked team after finishing the regular season with a 148-122 and were the underdogs against the Boyet Sequioco-captained squad, which finished atop the standings with a league-best 172-98 record.

In the playoffs, the Titans' John Reyes, Patrick Cepeda, Randy Sablan, and Jack Thornsaket showed that they were not intimidated by their opponent's top ranking. The Titans, after Route 33 tied the score at 5-5 following Roman Rodriguez's win over Ray Matsunaga in the first match of the five singles 8-ball events, won the next four to complete the upset win.

Reyes downed Sequioco, Cepeda drubbed Manny Mariano, and Thornsaket foiled Richard Santos.

The Titans will next face Wild Bill's after the Wild Wild West completed a 9-5 shellacking of the Jokers Homeboyz in the finals, set tomorrow. Route

33 and the Homeboyz will clash in the battle for third and fourth.

In the Tuesday league, the Jokers IT&E Voyagers (167-118), Smoke Pub Armatech Hustlers (164-121), Abyss Crazy 8 (147-138), and the Jokers STR8 Shooters (140-145) are most likely the competing teams in the playoff round.

Last week's results saw the Voyagers and Shooters completing 10-5 decisions over the Hustlers and the Abyss Homeboyz II, respectively and the Smoke Pub Destroyers trouncing the Crazy 8, 9-6.

The results of the final elimination round matches last June 16 were unavailable at press time. The Voyagers were scheduled to meet the Crazy 8, the Destroyers played against the STR8 Shooters, and the Homeboyz II faced the Hustlers.

RUSELLE

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slowed down in Game 3 with 195 and 147 pinfalls, respectively, missed the 200-pinfall mark in Game 4 to fall short in their bid to claim another monthly plum. Angeles won the January and February roll-offs, while Talavera reigned supreme in the March and April competitions. Edward Baluyan took the May honors to complete the list of month winners in the first half of the 2015 season.

Meanwhile, in the Queen of the Lanes, Carrie got her first monthly win and foiled her mother's bid for a third victory this year.

Carrie joined the Saturday roll-off and finished the four-game series on top of the field as she knocked down 770 pins (232, 163, 188, and 187) and averaged 192.50. Carrie's mother Diana, on the other hand, returned for the Sunday contest, but mustered only 721 pinfalls (167, 215, 179, 160) for a 180.25 average to settle for the runner-up honors. Diana, who was ranked only fifth in last Saturday's event, won the February and March roll-offs and is still in the hunt for her third win of the season.

Yho Villavicencio joined the mother and daughter pair in the Top 3 after recording 700 pinfalls (178, 191, 166, and 165) in last Sunday's tournament. Day 1 second placer and April victor Gloria Omechel-ang (682 pinfalls) dropped to fourth, followed by May winner Tess Fabie (667), Elena Soll (640), Janice Camacho (626), Lala Taitano (619), Gloria Pagarao (587), January champion Diane Chong (569), and Gigi Zapanta (482).

Retardo, Kitami win June Ace

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

William C. Retardo and Pil Sun Kitami ruled their respective golf club's June Ace of the Month tournaments held over the weekend in separate venues on the island.

Retardo topped the FilTaga Golfers Association's monthly event last Sunday at the Kingfisher Golf Links in Talofofo, while Kitami prevailed in the CNMI Women's Golf Association held last Saturday at the Coral Ocean Point Resort.

The FilTaga president finished with a pair of 37s at the front and back for a gross score of 74, but a five handicap earned him a 69 and a three-shot win over Adony Matutino, who scored a 72 and finished tied with club secretary Larry Pascual.

Raffy Piamonte registered a 73, while Gil Faller and Ely

Buenaventura were tied at fifth to sixth places with their 75s.

Tony Cabrera (79), Ruben Avendano (86), John Matsumoto (87), and Nestor Siruelo (89) completed the standings.

Retardo, the Mariana Resort & Spa's executive chef, was also one of the three par-3 winners at No. 15, while Piamonte and Faller won at Hole Nos. 6 and 12, respectively.

Retardo now joins Vic Roman (January), Jhun Ortiz (February), Ernie Lopez (March, Paul Bea (April), and Pascual (May) on the FilTaga yearend tournament to be held either in late December or early January 2016.

Kitami, meanwhile, bested 13 other female golfers to clinch the CWGA June monthly title.

She fired 44 and 46 at COP's front and back for a 90 gross and with her 19 USGA handicap, she finished with a 71 for



HERAS

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In Pool B, Ami Tsukagoshi duplicated Heras' feat, while U12's Coume and Conatsu Kaga and Seung Jin Paik and U14's Tania Tan, Asia Raulerson, Maliya Miyawaki, Mimi Sakano, Robbie Schorr, Ken Song, and Vincent Tudela also remained unscathed after yesterday's matches.

Tsukagoshi matched Heras' 3-0 slate after easing past Guam's Victoria Smith, 6-1, 6-0, and FSM's Sinarleen Perez, 6-2, 6-0. Tsukagoshi will close out her pool assignment today when she takes on Guam's Tara Usita, who also holds a 3-0 record.

In the girls U14 division, Tan, Miyawaki, Sakano, and Raul-

erson, who are ranked first to fourth, respectively, got identical 2-0 records and are likely to sweep all four playoff berths in their age group. The Top 2 players in each pool will earn tickets to the playoffs.

Tan is in Pool A and notched her second win against FSM's Tania Panuelo, 6-0, 6-0, while Raulerson also took her second victory in the same pool versus Guam's Alyssa Merletti, 6-1, 6-2. In Pool B, Miyawaki topped Guam's Jocelyn Tenai, 6-0, 6-0, while Mimi Sakano outclassed FSM's Isabel Garcia, 6-3, 6-2.

In the boys U14, Schorr, the No. 1 seed in the division, showed no mercy in handing Guam's James Hourican a 6-0, 6-0 beating to move up to a 2-0 record in Pool A, while the for-

mer's teammate Haruya Eda fell to a 0-2 slate after a tough loss to FSM's Andre Perillo, 6-2, 6-7 (7), 11-9.

In Pool B, the unranked Tudela went 2-0 following a 6-1, 6-0, triumph over Guam's Kian Malakooti, while Ken Song took the Pool C lead as he improved to a 3-0 record after bagging back-to-back wins yesterday. Song's first downed FSM's Sarkau Weston Luckymis, 6-0, 6-2, before defeating the latter's teammate Sterkis Abraham, 6-1, 6-2.

In the boys U12 division, Paik matched Song's 3-0 mark as the former outlasted fellow CNMI bet Ji Min Woo, 4-6, 7-5, 10-4. Woo earlier won against Palau's Jonah Tilei Ziegler, 6-2, 6-0, to remain in contention for the Top 2 spots in Pool B. In Pool A, Rintaro Miyawaki is

TIGERS

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They only gave up three points after the Smashers pushed their contests in the women's AB, and mixed AB and BC events to three games. The Red Tigers also earned two wins by walkover in the men's B and mixed C divisions.

The Red Tigers, however, are currently behind the Roadrunners by three points, 6-9, heading into this Friday's final matches.

The women's AB pair of Hannah Choi and Elna Curate, and the men's C tandem of Nathan Guerrero and Solaiman Munshi gave the Tigers the six points after they swept past their respective opponents.

Choi and Curate outsmarted the Roadrunners' duo of Marylyn Montano and Lucelle Lampera, 21-15, 21-18, while Guerrero and Moonshi drubbed Tommy Kim and Tae Ho Kim, 21-15, 21-14.

The Roadrunners, with Oh

Im Bog playing three matches, bounced back in the men's AB and BC, and mixed B. Oh teamed up with Tae Ho Kim in pulling off a 23-21, 21-5 decision against Guerrero and Edwin Montoya then joined Rowena Sison in claiming a 21-10, 21-15 victory over Curate and Montoya. He capped his amazing run with captain Andreau Galvez as they dealt Montoya his third straight loss, 21-11, 21-10. Montoya paired up with Jordan Pangilinan

also in the hunt for the playoff spot after sweeping his pair of matches yesterday and improving to a 3-1 record. Miyawaki got his Day 2 victories against FSM's Jones Neth George, 7-6 (7), 7-5, and Jerson Freddy, 6-3, 6-2. Sean Lee is in Pool A, too and barged into the win column after four games following his 6-0, 6-0 victory over Guam's Roman Merletti.

In the girls U12, top-ranked Conatsu is just one win away from sweeping Pool A after she downed teammate Erika Tuttle, 6-1, 6-1. Tuttle (1-1) has a chance to join Conatsu in the Top 2 and the playoffs if she wins against FSM's Paris Panuelo (1-1) today. In Pool B, Coume duplicated her older sister's record after the former topped teammate Maria Gre-

While the Red Tigers zoomed on top, the Smashers, leaders after the first week of the inaugural tournament, came crashing down with a series of defaults against the former and the Green Badminators.

The Smashers, aside from losing by walkover, suffered two-game defeats in the men's AB, women's AB, and mixed B events.

Deether Edralin and Gary Bandoja dealt Glenn Buultjens and A.J. Ortega a 21-18, 21-19 beat-

goire, 6-4, 6-2.

"We had a very good Day 2. We won 19 games and lost 3, which were matches between our players. We won 86 percent of our matches and with these results, our players are in a very good position to make it to the playoffs on Thursday," CNMI coach Jeff Race said in a telephone interview with *Saipan Tribune* last night.

"We had an upset in the boys U12, but I don't mind because that game was between our players with Seung Jin beating Ji Min. Tomorrow (today) will be a crucial day for us because our players will be going up against the top-ranked players in their division. Game face is on and they should remain focus at the task on hand," Race added.

ing and Anna Alvarez and Alma Ortega defeated Janelle Pangilinan and Shirley Kim, 21-19, 23-21. Bandoja then teamed up with Annette Ta in securing a 21-18, 21-16 decision against Kim and A.J. Ortega, 21-18, 21-16.

The Smashers, with 35 points, need to sweep their last five matches against the Badminators (50) in order to force a tie for fourth. The tiebreak will then be decided by subtracting the team's points against from points for.

22nd Silver Streak Fun Run

PHOTOS By JON PEREZ



Participants of last Saturday's 22nd Tom Picarro "Silver Streak" Fun Run wait for the starting gun.



Patrick Fernandez keeps a steady pace.



Organizers and volunteers of the 22nd Annual Tom Picarro Fun Run pose for a group photo.



Men's 3-kilometer division winner Gary Bandoja.



Tamio Nishikido, left, runs ahead of Nonie Eugenio.



Benjamin Babauta, left, and his mother Linda share a brisk morning walk.



Dan Calvo gives the thumbs up sign.



Joshua Berger is all smiles as he enjoys the early morning run.



T Galleria staffers Esther Ada, left, and Marida Pensader hold the list of winners and their times.



Tiffany Lin heads back to the finish line in the 3K event.



Two female participants run side by side along Beach Road.



**Warriors
expect Cavs'
punch in
Game 6**
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**Retardo,
Kitami win
June Ace**

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Heras, 11 others still perfect



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Isabel Heras returns to Vincent Tudela during their scrimmage at the Pacific Islands Club last week.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Isabel Heras and 11 other CNMI junior tennis players kept their unbeaten records to boost their playoff chances in the ITF North Pacific Regional Championships 2015.

Heras continued to live up to her lofty billing, as the top-ranked player in the girls U16 singles earned a 3-0 mark after Day 2 of the competition at the City Courts in Agana, Guam. Heras made it three in a row as she bagged two more victories in Pool A yesterday, giving up only one



point in her pair of matches. She first crushed the Federated States of Micronesia's Jenna Panuelo, 6-0, 6-0, before returning to the same court in the afternoon to dominate Guam's Kanasta Abrams, 6-1, 6-0.

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Ruselle, Carrie top SBA June roll-offs

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Ruselle Zapanta and Carrie Camacho barged into the monthly champions circle after prevailing in Saipan Bowling Association's Budweiser King and Queen of the Lanes Tournament for June last weekend at Saipan Bowling Center.

Zapanta competed in the Sunday roll-off and recorded three 200-plus pins in the four-game series for a field best 839 pinfalls. He surpassed the 732 pinfalls of last Saturday leader Edgar Abalos, who also bowled last Sunday but his 745 pinfalls were only good enough for a tie for third place with Robert Talavera. Raymond Angeles completed the Top 3 with his 803 pinfalls last Sunday. Bowlers are allowed to join both days of the tournament, but only the higher score is counted.

In last Sunday's contest, Angeles and Talavera were in a close fight after the first two games, 236-234, with the former gaining 199 and 237 in Games 1 and 2 and the latter tallying 226 and 208. However, they ended up behind Ruselle, who stole the win with a strong finish. The June winner, who registered 200 and 210 in Games 1 and 2 before dropping to 182 in Game 3, came out swinging in Game 4 with his 247 for an average of 209.

Both Angeles and Talavera, who

See RUSELLE on Page 26

Tigers grab lead in Saipan Times badminton

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The Red Tigers jumped atop the standings of the inaugural *Saipan Times* Open Badminton Team Tournament after the third week of action from June 12 to 14 at the TSL Sports Complex in Gualo Rai.

The Red Tigers, who were in fourth place after the June 7 matches, slowly worked their way up the following weekend as they collected 33 points to hike their total to 65 with the final half of their contest against the Racket Roadrunners set this Friday.

The Armatech Shuttlers currently sit in second place with 62 points, but could drop to third or fourth depending on the final matchups between

the Roadrunners (58) and the Green Badminators (50). The Sun Palace Smashers are at the cellar with only 35 points.

All matches are in doubles—men's, women's and mixed—with a two-game win giving the victorious pair three points and two to the triumphant team and one to the losing duo if the match went to three games.

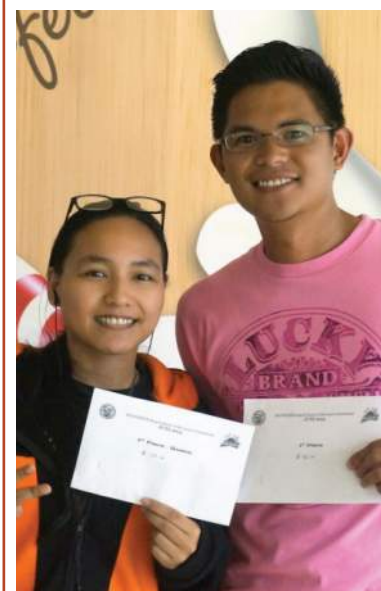
The Red Tigers clinched 27 points against the Smashers in their match-up on June 12 and 13, as the former completed the rout with sweeps in the men's BC and C, women's BC and C, and mixed A.

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JON PEREZ

Racket Roadrunners captain Andreau Galvez, right, prepares to serve, while teammate Marlene Peraja waits for the return in one of their matches in the mixed A division in the ongoing 2015 Saipan Times Open Badminton Team Tournament.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Carrie Camacho, left, and Ruselle Zapanta show their prizes after winning the Saipan Bowling Association's June roll-offs last weekend at the Saipan Bowling Center.